Creative Writing
Revised 1-21-2010

Mission/Vision Statement
The mission of the Creative Writing Program is to educate our students in the craft, life and business practices in five areas of study – fiction, poetry, screenwriting, playwriting, creative non-fiction – through a commitment to excellent mentorships, publishing opportunities and industry-specific capstones.

The department’s vision is to offer a nationally recognized and widely reputed graduate creative program where students and faculty find the writing support community and market opportunities to become life-long, productive, professional creative writers in all fields.

Students/Customers
The low residency creative writing program offers an M.A. serving a national pool of nontraditional students, ranging in age from 23-70, from newly minted B.A. to retiree. This program clearly serves those people who are serious about becoming professional writers, providing practical, experiential lessons in business, craft and writer decorum.

Program Objectives (PO)
• Continuing an aggressive and focused national marketing campaign in conjunction with University Relations.
• Developing aggressive recruitment methods, including genre-specific scholarships, to recruit top, nationally ranked students;
• Ongoing development of support mechanisms to maintain the highly reputed faculty and Advisory Board members.

Student Learning Objectives (SLO)
At the completion of the M.A. in Creative Writing, students will be able to:
• Articulate the strengths and weaknesses of and discriminate between the archetypal models of writerly lives as they build a writing life plan of their own design.
• Articulate the strengths and address the weaknesses of the work of their peers, as well as their own work and their writing process.
• Describe the breadth and depth of knowledge of the historical context and tradition of the range of forms, conventions, and styles within their selected major and minor areas.
• Demonstrate competency in the technology of their major genre area.
• Understand the legal and ethical standards and the practical issues of their profession, and demonstrate that knowledge through the residencies and portfolio work of the program.
• Speak and write to people in professional venues of their genre in a confident manner.

Key Assessment Activities
• Shared Essays
• Presentations
• Interviews with Faculty/Director
• Final Workshop
• Portfolio Presentation
• Evaluation by Outside Readers
• Capstone Experience
University Strategic Plan Goals (SPG)

1. Achieving excellence & growth in academic programs.
2. Developing a world-class support environment.
3. Valuing our people.

Institutional Student Learning Outcomes (ISLO)

Through coursework, learning experiences, co-curricular and extracurricular activities, students will develop and demonstrate:

1. Knowledge, skills, and scholarship appropriate to general and major field areas of study.
2. Effective written and oral communication skills and information literacy using an array of media and modalities.
3. Practical, critical, analytical, and quantitative reasoning skills.
4. Actions reflecting ethical reasoning, civic responsibility, environmental stewardship, and respect for diversity.
5. Interpersonal skills and knowledge of self as a learner that contribute to effective team work, mentoring, and life-long learning.

Strategic Alignment

At the completion of the M.A. in Creative Writing, students will be able to:

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<tr>
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Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) Code: 23.0501