**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/Customer**

The low residency creative writing program offers a terminal degree in the Creative Writing to students who have obtained the Wilkes University Master of Arts Degree in Creative Writing.

**Program Objectives (PO)**

Students must meet all M.A. requirements plus successful completion of:

- **The Analysis Paper**: Acknowledging and understanding the diverse forms, styles, and ongoing tradition of the student's chosen literary genre.
- **The Teaching/Publishing Internship**: Utilizing the multiple and appropriate teaching methodologies in beginning, workshopping, critiquing, and sustaining the creative work of others, including knowing the diverse strategies, best practices and genre-specific exercises that lead to the creation of student work.

**Student Learning Objectives (SLO)**

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

- 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 area.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the literary tradition and where their own work lives within that literary spectrum.
- Demonstrate an understanding of how best to teach or work in a variety of artists-in-residency or publishing venues.
- Demonstrate competency in the best practices of teaching creative writing or in the business of supporting writers and their work in the publishing industry.

**Key Assessment Activities**

- Faculty Critiques
- Interviews with Director
- Student Surveys
- Internship Evaluations

**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.F.A. in Creative Writing, students will be able to:

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Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) Code: 23.0501