Creative Writing Minor

*Coordinators:* Rosemurgy and Row

[Click here for Creative Writing courses.]

The minor in Creative Writing offers students the opportunity to learn the craft of writing by studying the works of published writers, by writing and revising their own work, and by examining, critiquing, and supporting each others’ work in and out of workshop.

The workshop component of the minor is designed to provide incremental exposure to the writing process over a series of four required courses. In CWR206 Creative Writing, students are introduced to poetry and fiction writing through the discussion of published work and the completion of writing exercises which focus on particular, isolated aspects of craft. Students are introduced to the workshop method, but the course is primarily lecture/discussion. In CWR 304/Poetry Workshop and CWR/306 Fiction Workshop, students continue their study in courses that focus on a single genre and balance writing workshops with lecture/discussion of published work and craft issues. CWR 406/Writer’s Workshop is an intensive workshop, a capstone class in creative writing, in which students must produce a significant body of work, such as a chapbook of poems or a series of stories.

For the fifth course in the minor, students will do further literary study in one of two courses: CWR 388 Contemporary Literature or CWR 301 Writing Communities. Emphasis in both of these courses will be placed on introducing students to the artistic range of contemporary literature. Students will read and discuss a variety of authors and poets who represent major developments in the trajectories of traditional and non-traditional aesthetics. Such reading will provide students with a repertoire of texts upon which to model their own creative work.

Students interested in pursuing the minor should take CWR 206 as early as possible; it is the prerequisite for all 300- and 400-level workshops. Students must complete CWR 206 before they can declare the minor. Interested students should meet with one of the program coordinators for advisement and to plan their course of study. Multiple minors may overlap by only one course.

**Requirements for the creative writing minor:**

Five course units

- CWR 206/Creative Writing
- LIT 388/Contemporary Literature or CWR 301/Writing Communities
- CWR 304/Poetry Workshop
- CWR 306/Fiction Workshop
- CWR 406/Writers’ Workshop

- Workshops can be repeated for credit, but only after fulfilling the above requirements.
- No more than one course taken toward the student’s major may be counted in the creative writing minor.
- Please note: When offered, the workshops in Creative Nonfiction, Playwriting, and Screenwriting are meant to supplement the Creative Writing minor, but they cannot substitute for any of the five required courses in the Creative Writing minor.