

10KV5347BALA: CREATIVE WRITING, BALAS

In Workflow

1. U Program Review (dforgacs@illinois.edu; eastuby@illinois.edu; aledward@illinois.edu)
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8. U Senate Conf (none)
9. Board of Trustees (none)
10. IBHE (none)
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Approval Path

1. Thu, 29 Oct 2020 16:06:14 GMT
Deb Forgacs (dforgacs): Approved for U Program Review
2. Thu, 29 Oct 2020 16:36:45 GMT
Robert Barrett (rwb): Approved for 1499 Head
3. Thu, 29 Oct 2020 17:22:43 GMT
Kelly Ritter (ritterk): Approved for KV Dean
4. Thu, 29 Oct 2020 17:59:52 GMT
John Wilkin (jpwilkin): Approved for University Librarian
5. Thu, 29 Oct 2020 18:15:34 GMT
Kathy Martensen (kmartens): Approved for Provost

History

1. Mar 30, 2019 by Deb Forgacs (dforgacs)

Date Submitted:Wed, 28 Oct 2020 22:45:13 GMT

Viewing:10KV5347BALA : Creative Writing, BALAS

Changes proposed by: Amy Elli

Proposal Type

Proposal Type:

Major (ex. Special Education)

This proposal is for a:

Revision

Proposal Title:

If this proposal is one piece of a multi-element change please include the other impacted programs here.*example: A BS revision with multiple concentration revisions*

Revision to the BALAS in Creative Writing

EP Control Number

EP.21.029

Official Program Name

Creative Writing, BALAS

Effective Catalog Term

Fall 2021

Sponsor College

Liberal Arts & Sciences

Sponsor Department

English

Sponsor Name

Ted Sanders, Director

Sponsor Email

ted@illinois.edu

College Contact

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Program Description and Justification

Justification for proposal change:

We are looking to modernize and streamline our BALAS in Creative Writing, refocusing our requirements beneath the two curricular tentpoles of our field: Creative Writing (craft, practice, and professionalization) and Literary Study (reading and theory). More specifically, we are moving away from Western-centric mandates by removing our ENGL218/ENGL418 Shakespeare requirement as well as a required two sequence class in Western History & Culture that constitutes supporting coursework in the current program of study. Both of these requirements were dropped from the English BALAS requirements in 2018. We have replaced these hours with more coursework in CW and ENGL. We are introducing no specific new courses to our requirements, instead opting for flexibility and choice. The total required credit hours for the major remains unchanged at 36. Although the undergraduate Creative Writing program at UIUC is one of the oldest in the country—dating back to the 1960's—the CW course rubric has only existed since 2005. That year, courses that had for decades been listed in RHET began to move to the newly-created CW rubric. These shifts involved the transfer of a few courses whose identities were in limbo, as well as a somewhat ad hoc refiguring of prerequisites, sequences, requirements, and even course levels.

The CW major was last revised in 2014, when we established new courses and requirements in a successful attempt to add rigor and breadth to our program. These additions included a 100-level CW intro class, a 200-level literature for creative writers course, and a 400-level practicum in online publishing—now staples of the program, offered multiple times per year. Because of the push toward these important new courses, however, certain

outdated, awkward, or hamstrung-by-history aspects of the curriculum were left unaddressed. This proposal addresses many of those necessary revisions.

By no longer requiring Shakespeare or Western History & Culture, we move toward a 21st century version of the liberal arts education. We are reinvesting in literary studies more broadly, expanding our ENGL course requirements from 9 hours to 12-15 hours while also opening the door to a wider selection of courses and the cultural and historical work therein (work that, along with Gen Ed material, supplants the work done by our shelved History & Culture requirement). We also now require one course from ENGL's newly-formed Difference & Diaspora list, a track within the revised BALAS in English focused on race, ethnicity, indigeneity, postcoloniality, gender, and sexuality.

Under the CW rubric, we've added 3-6 hours of coursework while simplifying and diversifying our overall requirements. The workshop is the core of our program, and while we will continue to require a single full sequence of workshops (104/204/404 Fiction or 106/206/406 Poetry), we now explicitly require a 4th workshop in a different genre—a move we hope will increase enrollment in our poetry courses. The new revision also reaffirms the line between workshops and non-workshops, a continuation of our effort to expand the curriculum beyond the production of creative work. Professionalization, editing, publishing, craft-based analysis, research, linguistics—all of these are vital to what we teach and do, providing our students a varied skill set that prepares them for a wide variety of career opportunities.

We've also initiated catalog and program changes that are not a part of this proposal but are vital to its larger context. For instance, we very recently renamed, re-described, or otherwise clarified many of our courses and requirements. We are restructuring and formalizing our diverse and popular selection of special topics classes. In addition, we added a CW 199 rubric so that we can begin piloting new CW courses—primarily at the advanced level, where our current offerings are less readily accessible than we would like, due in part to our three-semester workshop sequences and the complete absence of 300-level courses. In particular, we have already begun development of new upper division courses in contemporary literature, an area of study integral to our unique curriculum. Our program is dedicated to the creation of contemporary literature, after all, and because contemporary literature currently lacks robust representation in ENGL, particularly in prose and poetry, we hope to begin piloting the first such CW course as early as spring 2021, funneling students into it via our new non-Workshop requirement.

Overall, the revisions and clarifications we're undertaking result in a curriculum that's modern, clear, flexible, and built with the future of the program in mind, as the Creative Writing program continues to expand our offerings and consolidate our pedagogical identity.

IBHE Requirements

Of the 36 credit hours required in the Creative Writing major, 12 hours must be upper division courses. While comparable with many other BALAS programs, and in line with the IBHE requirement of 40/120 upper division hours, we looked at the feasibility of increasing that number to 15 hours. Ultimately we decided that because of the relatively limited availability of advanced-level CW courses, as described above, we would first focus on providing students with more robust access to such classes. We plan to increase the requirement to at least 15 advanced hours in 2-3 years, once we can provide students with that access by offering 300-level CW courses, already in development. We're concerned that raising the requirement now might not only hurt our numbers, as many students add CW as a second major later in their college careers, but that it might force current students to seek out upper-level ENGL courses for which they may not be prepared—an existing problem that this proposal was designed to mitigate.

Corresponding Degree

BALAS Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Is this program interdisciplinary?

No

Academic Level

Undergraduate

Will you admit to the concentration directly?

No

Is a concentration required for graduation?

No

CIP Code

231304 - Rhetoric and Composition.

Is This a Teacher Certification Program?

No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

No

Admission Requirements

Desired Effective Admissions Term

Fall 2021

Is this revision a change to the admission status of the program?

No

Provide a brief narrative description of the admission requirements for this program. Where relevant, include information about licensure requirements, student background checks, GRE and TOEFL scores, and admission requirements for transfer students.

Unchanged

Describe how critical academic functions such as admissions and student advising are managed.

Unchanged

Enrollment

Describe how this revision will impact enrollment and degrees awarded.

We foresee a modest increase in enrollment, due in part to the removal of relatively unpopular requirements like Shakespeare and to the sharpened clarity regarding what our program is and does. With our expanded ENGL requirements, we anticipate that we may see a small increase in students electing to double-major in CW and ENGL.

Year One Estimated Degrees Awarded = 35-40

Year Five (fully implemented) Estimated Degrees Awarded = 35-50

Estimated Annual Number of Degrees Awarded**What is the matriculation term for this program?**

Fall

What is the typical time to completion of this program?

4 years

What are the minimum Total Credit Hours required for this program?

120 hours for degree; 36 hours for major

Delivery Method

Is this program available on campus and online?

No

This program is available:

On Campus

Budget

Are there budgetary implications for this revision?

No

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.) beyond what is currently available?

No

Resource Implications

Facilities

Will the program require new or additional facilities or significant improvements to already existing facilities?

No

Technology

Will the program need additional technology beyond what is currently available for the unit?

No

Non-Technical Resources

Will the program require additional supplies, services or equipment (non-technical)?

No

Resources

For each of these items, be sure to include in the response if the proposed new program or change will result in replacement of another program(s). If so, which program(s), what is the anticipated impact on faculty, students, and instructional resources? Please attach any letters of support/ acknowledgement from faculty, students, and/or other impacted units as appropriate.

Faculty Resources

Please address the impact on faculty resources including any changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc. Describe how the unit will support student advising, including job placement and/or admission to advanced studies.

None

Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

None

Instructional Resources

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects impacted by the creation/revision of this program?

No

Financial Resources

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

N/A

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Attach letters of support

Creative Writing BALAS Dept Letters.docx

Are you seeking a change in the tuition rate or differential for this program?

No

Program Regulation and Assessment

Briefly describe the plan to assess and improve student learning, including the program's learning objectives; when, how, and where these learning objectives will be assessed; what metrics will be used to signify student's achievement of the stated learning objectives; and the process to ensure assessment results are used to improve student learning. (Describe how the program is aligned with or meets licensure, certification, and/or entitlement requirements, if applicable).

The student learning outcomes for the BALAS in Creative Writing are as follows:

1. Concepts: Students will demonstrate knowledge of fundamental elements of creative writing craft, including elements specific to their selected genre of specialization. General creative writing elements include theme, tone, style, among others. Genre specific elements for poetry include sound, rhythm, lineation, persona, etc.; specific elements for narrative prose include plot, character, setting, point of view, etc.
2. Creation: Students will learn to contemplate the creative act—and their creations—with curiosity, inquiry, reflection, and instinct. They will understand the creative process as a series of choices, and will demonstrate an ability to persistently confront these choices both intellectually and intuitively.
3. Writing: Students will develop a distinctive personal writing style, utilizing learned craft techniques to create literary works of high quality, and will demonstrate the ability to revise drafts of their work in response to useful critical commentary.
4. Workshop: Students will develop effective workshop practices and demonstrate the ability to critique the work of peers in a constructive manner, using written and verbal communication.
5. Reading: Students will demonstrate the ability to read, analyze, and discuss published works of literature—especially contemporary literature—from a craft perspective, identifying authorial choices and evaluating the effect of those choices on the work.
6. Literary Community and Profession: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the professional creative writing field with regards to literary journals, presses, and other iterations of the literary community.

To address concerns about craft concepts and revision, we now employ end-of-semester revision portfolios in all our Workshop classes. Our students have now come to expect these portfolios in our Workshops, and begin planning for those revision projects early in the semester. Many instructors also require essays to accompany those portfolios. Instructor evaluation of those portfolios and revisions indicates a measurably increased student understanding of and engagement with these vital aspects of writing.

We also have continued to emphasize the importance of craft and revision in our required CW 243, recently retitled The Craft Essay: Creative Reading, Reflection, and Revision. In 2017, that course was newly formed, newly required, and frequently handed off. Now it is taught by a regular rotation of instructors who have developed it into perhaps our most academically demanding course, exposing our students to creative writers who are writing about writing, and challenging them to do the same. Informal instructor evaluation of students' ability to discuss creative writing—both their own work and others'—indicates an overall increased fluidity of thinking when it comes to process and craft. It's easy for a Workshop to become dog shows, where work is produced and brought to class to receive admiration. (Workshops are essentially studio classes where art is produced; CW majors may might take as many as 5-7 Workshops while here.) Now, our Workshops far more often earn their name. They are a place where work comes to be re-worked, so that the necessary process of revision and development can continue.

Pursuant to Student Learning Outcome 5 and to continuing concerns that creative writing majors do not have adequate knowledge of contemporary literature, we've added a new assessment question: Do our students receive sufficient exposure to contemporary literature? While this concern was raised in our original Assessment Plan, we never took explicit steps to address it. With this curriculum revision proposal, we have in part made room for the inclusion of more courses in contemporary literature, currently under development. We anticipate another curriculum revision in 3-4 years to formalize requirements in contemporary literature and other non-Workshop CW courses currently being developed or revised.

Is the career/profession for graduates of this program regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

Program of Study

"Baccalaureate degree requires at least 120 semester credit hours or 180 quarter credit hours and at least 40 semester credit hours (60 quarter credit hours) in upper division courses" (source: <https://www.ibhe.org/assets/files/PrivateAdminRules2017.pdf>). For proposals for new bachelor's degrees,

if this minimum is not explicitly met by specifically-required 300- and/or 400-level courses, please provide information on how the upper-division hours requirement will be satisfied.

All proposals must attach the new or revised version of the Academic Catalog program of study entry. Contact your college office if you have questions.

Revised programs

Creative Writing BALAS Comparative Table.docx
Creative Writing BALAS-Appendix B English Diff&Diasp List.docx
Creative Writing BALAS-Academic Catalog Entry.docx
CW BALAS CURRICULUM PROPOSAL September 2020.docx
Creative Writing BALAS-Appendix A Approved English Course List.docx

Attach a side-by-side comparison with the existing program AND, if the revision references or adds “choose-from” lists of courses students can select from to fulfill requirements, a listing of these courses, including the course rubric, number, title, and number of credit hours.

Catalog Page Text

Statement for Programs of Study Catalog

General education: Students must complete the Campus General Education (<https://courses.illinois.edu/>) requirements.

Minimum required coursework equates to 36 hours in CW and ENGL courses. Twelve hours of 300- or 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus, of which at least three (3) hours must be Creative Writing Courses CW 404/CW 406

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours

Code	Title	Hours
Major Requirements		
Literature for Creative Writers		
CW 100	Intro to Creative Writing	
CW 200	Reading for Writers	
Expository Writing (Advanced Composition)		
Craft		
CW 243	The Craft Essay: Creative Reading, Reflection, and Revision	3
Creative Writing Coursework		
Students complete 12 hours of creative writing coursework, including at least one of the following 3-course (9-hour) sequences:		
Creative Writing Workshops		
12 hours of Creative Writing Workshops, including at least one of the following		
3-course (9-hour) Workshop sequences:		
CW 106	Poetry Workshop I	
& CW 206	and Poetry Workshop II	
& CW 406	and Poetry Workshop III	
or		
CW 104	Fiction Workshop I	
& CW 204	and Fiction Workshop II	
& CW 404	and Fiction Workshop III	
The remaining 3 hours in this category can be satisfied by a fourth CW Workshop outside of the chosen sequence. ¹		
Writing and Literature		
3 hours of Writing and Literature coursework, either:		
3 hours of non-Workshop CW coursework (CW 460, or another approved non-Workshop CW course) ²		
or		
ENGL 418	Shakespeare	3

or ENGL 218	Introduction to Shakespeare	
Literature Coursework:		
6 hours of English or American literature coursework chosen from approved list.		6
Supporting coursework		
History and Culture Coursework: Choose one of the following pairs:		6
CWL 241 & CWL 242	Early Masterpieces of Western Culture and Modern Masterpieces of Western Culture	
HIST 141 & HIST 142	Western Civ to 1660 and Western Civ Since 1660	
HIST 171 & HIST 172	US History to 1877 and US History Since 1877	
HIST 255 & HIST 256	British Isles to 1688 and Britain and World Since 1688	
3 hours of ENGL coursework ³		
Additional Literature Coursework⁴		12
12 additional hours of approved ENGL coursework, including:		
9 hours of approved ENGL Literature coursework ⁵		
3 hours of an ENGL Difference & Diaspora course ⁶		
Total Hours		36

¹ CW 404 and CW 406 may be repeated once for credit, but may not be repeated to fulfill this requirement.

² Some sections of CW 199, CW 202, and CW 463 may or may not count as a non-Workshop class, depending on the topics offered in a given semester.

³ These hours must be taken at the 200-level or above.

⁴ A maximum of 3 hours of 100-level coursework may be counted towards the Additional Literature Coursework requirement.

⁵ Chosen from a list maintained by the Creative Writing Program and the English Advising Office.

⁶ Chosen from the *Difference & Diaspora* list maintained by the English Program and the English Advising office.

EP Documentation

Attach Rollback/Approval Notices

EP21029_correspondencefromsponsor.pdf

DMI Documentation

Banner/Codebook Name

BALAS: Creative Writing - UIUC

Program Code:

10KV5347BALA

Degree Code

BALAS

Major Code

5347

Key: 304

Comparative Table of Proposed Changesⁱ

Current Requirements	Current Hours	Proposed Requirements	Proposed Hours
Literature Foundational Coursework CW 100 Intro to Creative Writing CW 200 Reading for Writers	6	Literature for Creative Writers CW 100 Intro to Creative Writing CW 200 Reading for Writers	6
Expository Writing (Advanced Composition) CW 243 Inter Expository Writing ¹	3	Craft CW 243 The Craft Essay: Creative Reading, Reflection, and Revision	3
Creative Writing Coursework Students complete 12 hours of creative writing coursework, including at least one of the following 3-course (9-hour) sequences: CW 106 Intro to Poetry Writing & CW 206 Intermediate Poetry Writing & CW 406 Advanced Poetry Writing OR CW 104 Intro to Narrative Writing & CW 204 Intermediate Narrative Writing & CW 404 Advanced Narrative Writing The remaining three hours of writing coursework can be satisfied by a fourth CW workshop outside of the mandatory sequence or any of the following writing courses: ENGL 401, 402, 403, and 481; BTW 250, 261, and 271; CMN 310, 423, and 432; JOUR 475; and THEA 211	12	Creative Writing Workshops 12 hours of creative writing Workshops, including at least one of the following 3-course (9-hour) Workshop sequences: CW 106 Poetry Workshop I & CW 206 Poetry Workshop II & CW 406 Poetry Workshop III or CW 104 Fiction Workshop I & CW 204 Fiction Workshop II & CW 404 Fiction Workshop III The remaining 3 hours in this category can be satisfied by a fourth CW Workshop outside of the chosen sequence. ⁱⁱ	12
Shakespeare ENGL 418 Shakespeare <i>or</i> ENGL 218 Introduction to Shakespeare	3	Writing and Literature 3 hours of non-Workshop CW coursework: CW 460, or another approved non-Workshop CW course <i>or</i> 3 hours of ENGL coursework	3
Literature Coursework: 6 hours of English or American literature coursework chosen from approved list.	6	Additional Literature Coursework 12 additional hours of approved ENGL coursework, including:	12

		<p>9 hours of approved ENGL Literature courseworkⁱⁱⁱ</p> <p>3 hours of an ENGL <i>Difference & Diaspora</i> course^{iv}</p> <p>No more than 3 hours of 100-level coursework may be taken to meet the Additional Literature Coursework requirement.</p>	
<p>Supporting Coursework: History and Culture Coursework.</p> <p>Choose one of the following pairs:</p> <p>CWL 241 <i>and</i> CWL 242 Masterpieces of West Culture I & II</p> <p>HIST 141 Western Civ to 1660 <i>and</i> HIST 142 Western Civ Since 1660</p> <p>HIST 171 US Hist to 1877 <i>and</i> HIST 172 US Hist Since 1877</p> <p>HIST 255 British Isles to 1688 <i>and</i> HIST 256 Great Britain Since 1688</p>	6		
Total hours	36	Total hours	36
<p>1. Credit is not given for both CW 243 and RHET 233. Students who have taken RHET 233 prior to declaring the CW major must take CW 208-Creative Nonfiction Writing instead of CW 243 to complete this requirement. Students who take CW 208 for their Expository Writing requirement cannot count CW 208 toward the required 12 hours of Creative Writing coursework.</p> <p>Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus, of which at least three hours must be Creative Writing Courses (CW 404 or CW 406).</p>		<p>Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus, of which at least three hours must be Creative Writing Courses (CW 404 or CW 406).</p>	

All Creative Writing courses must be taken in sequence (CW 104 before CW 204, etc.)			
All foreign language requirements must be satisfied.			

ⁱ The titles of several of our courses were revised in fall 2020. Old course titles are still listed in the *Current Requirements* column; new course titles are reflected in the *Proposed Requirements* column.

ⁱⁱ Previously, this has been interpreted to mean that students could simply repeat 404 or 406 to fulfil this requirement; our new major clarifies that the 4th workshop must be taken in a different genre than their chosen sequence.

ⁱⁱⁱ see Appendix A

^{iv} see Appendix B



PROPOSAL TITLE: Revision to the BALAS in Creative Writing, Department of English, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2021

SPONSOR: Ted Sanders, Director of Creative Writing, Department of English, ted@illinois.edu

COLLEGE CONTACT: Kelly Ritter, Associate Dean for Curricula and Academic Policy, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, ritterk@illinois.edu

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION and JUSTIFICATION

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

We are looking to modernize and streamline our BALAS in Creative Writing, refocusing our requirements beneath the two curricular tentpoles of our field: Creative Writing (craft, practice, and professionalization) and Literary Study (reading and theory). More specifically, we are moving away from Western-centric mandates by removing our ENGL218/ENGL418 Shakespeare requirement as well as a required two sequence class in Western History & Culture that constitutes supporting coursework in the current program of study. Both of these requirements were dropped from the English BALAS requirements in 2018. We have replaced these hours with more coursework in CW and ENGL. We are introducing no specific new courses to our requirements, instead opting for flexibility and choice. The total required credit hours for the major remains unchanged at 36.

JUSTIFICATION

Although the undergraduate Creative Writing program at UIUC is one of the oldest in the country—dating back to the 1960's—the CW course rubric has only existed since 2005. That year, courses that had for decades been listed in RHET began to move to the newly-created CW rubric. These shifts involved the transfer of a few courses whose identities were in limbo, as well as a somewhat ad hoc refiguring of prerequisites, sequences, requirements, and even course levels.

The CW major was last revised in 2014, when we established new courses and requirements in a successful attempt to add rigor and breadth to our program. These additions included a 100-level CW intro class, a 200-level literature for creative writers course, and a 400-level practicum in online publishing—now staples of the program, offered multiple times per year. Because of the push toward these important new courses, however, certain outdated, awkward, or hamstrung-by-history aspects of the curriculum were left unaddressed. This proposal addresses many of those necessary revisions.

By no longer requiring Shakespeare or Western History & Culture, we move toward a 21st century version of the liberal arts education. We are reinvesting in literary studies more broadly, expanding our ENGL course requirements from 9 hours to 12-15 hours while also opening the door to a wider selection of courses and the cultural and historical work therein (work that, along with Gen Ed material, supplants

the work done by our shelved History & Culture requirement). We also now require one course from ENGL's newly-formed *Difference & Diaspora* list, a track within the revised BALAS in English focused on race, ethnicity, indigeneity, postcoloniality, gender, and sexuality.

Under the CW rubric, we've added 3-6 hours of coursework while simplifying and diversifying our overall requirements. The workshop is the core of our program, and while we will continue to require a single full sequence of workshops (104/204/404 Fiction or 106/206/406 Poetry), we now explicitly require a 4th workshop in a different genre—a move we hope will increase enrollment in our poetry courses. The new revision also reaffirms the line between workshops and non-workshops, a continuation of our effort to expand the curriculum beyond the production of creative work. Professionalization, editing, publishing, craft-based analysis, research, linguistics—all of these are vital to what we teach and do, providing our students a varied skill set that prepares them for a wide variety of career opportunities.

We've also initiated catalog and program changes that are not a part of this proposal but are vital to its larger context. For instance, we very recently renamed, re-described, or otherwise clarified many of our courses and requirements. We are restructuring and formalizing our diverse and popular selection of special topics classes. In addition, we added a CW 199 rubric so that we can begin piloting new CW courses—primarily at the advanced level, where our current offerings are less readily accessible than we would like, due in part to our three-semester workshop sequences and the complete absence of 300-level courses. In particular, we have already begun development of new upper division courses in contemporary literature, an area of study integral to our unique curriculum. Our program is dedicated to the *creation* of contemporary literature, after all, and because contemporary literature currently lacks robust representation in ENGL, particularly in prose and poetry, we hope to begin piloting the first such CW course as early as spring 2021, funneling students into it via our new non-Workshop requirement.

Overall, the revisions and clarifications we're undertaking result in a curriculum that's modern, clear, flexible, and built with the future of the program in mind, as the Creative Writing program continues to expand our offerings and consolidate our pedagogical identity.

IBHE Requirements

Of the 36 credit hours required in the Creative Writing major, 12 hours must be upper division courses. While comparable with many other BALAS programs, and in line with the IBHE requirement of 40/120 upper division hours, we looked at the feasibility of increasing that number to 15 hours. Ultimately we decided that because of the relatively limited availability of advanced-level CW courses, as described above, we would first focus on providing students with more robust access to such classes. We plan to increase the requirement to at least 15 advanced hours in 2-3 years, once we can provide students with that access by offering 300-level CW courses, already in development. We're concerned that raising the requirement now might not only hurt our numbers, as many students add CW as a second major later in their college careers, but that it might force current students to seek out upper-level ENGL courses for which they may not be prepared—an existing problem that this proposal was designed to mitigate.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Desired admissions term: Fall 2021

Admission requirements

Unchanged; there are no special admissions requirements into the Creative Writing program.

Admissions & Advising

Unchanged; Creative Writing students are advised through the English Advising office, with whom we've worked closely on this revision.

ENROLLMENT

Describe how this revision will impact enrollment and degrees awarded

We foresee a modest increase in enrollment, due in part to the removal of relatively unpopular requirements like Shakespeare and to the sharpened clarity regarding what our program is and does. With our expanded ENGL requirements, we anticipate that we may see a small increase in students electing to double-major in CW and ENGL.

Estimated Annual Number of Degrees Awarded

Year 1: 35-40

Year 5 (or when fully implemented): 35-50

Delivery Method

Face to face, when possible.

BUDGET

Please describe any budgetary implications for this revision

We don't foresee any budgetary implications.

Will the revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.) beyond what is currently available

This revision does not require additional staffing.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Facilities—Will the program require new or additional facilities or significant improvements to already existing facilities?

No.

Technology—Will the program need additional technology beyond what is currently available for the unit?

No.

Non-Technical Resources—Will the program require additional supplies, services or equipment (non-technical)?

No.

RESOURCES

Faculty Resources

We expect to see increased enrollment in some of our existing courses. To the extent that we expect to see the number of Creative Writing majors rise overall, we anticipate that such a rise would be relatively

modest. We foresee no impact on faculty resources, in part because Creative Writing added two new tenure-track faculty to our ranks in fall 2020—an increase of 15% in our overall CW faculty count. We expect that the current faculty is sufficient to accommodate any rise in overall enrollment due to this revision.

Library Resources

We do not anticipate any impact on library resources.

Instructional Resources: Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No.

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No.

Does the program include any required or recommended subjects that are offered by other departments?

No.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

No additional financial support needed.

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No.

Will an existing tuition rate be used or continue to be used for this program?

Yes.

PROGRAM REGULATION

Describe how the program is aligned with or meets licensure, certification, and/or entitlement requirements, if applicable.

Not applicable.

Is the career/profession for graduates of this program regulated by the State of Illinois?

No.

ACADEMIC CATALOG ENTRY

OVERVIEW tab:

department website: [English](#)

program website: [Creative Writing](#)

advising: [English & Creative Writing advising](#)

college website: [College of Liberal Arts & Sciences](#)

overview of college admissions & requirements: [LAS Admissions](#)

The Creative Writing major, housed in the Department of English, combines small workshops in poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction with specialized courses in craft, practice, publishing, and editing, supported by a wide variety of literature courses under both the CW and ENGL rubrics. The result is a strong but flexible program of study that develops students' creative, professional, and analytical skills, preparing them for careers and graduate studies in any number of writing-related fields.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS tab:

for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts & Sciences Major in Creative Writing

Minimum required course work equates to 36 hours in CW and ENGL courses. Twelve hours of 300- or 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus, of which at least 3 hours must be Creative Writing courses (CW 404 or CW 406).

General education: Students must complete the [Campus General Education](#) requirements.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours

Major Requirements

Literature for Creative Writers	6
CW 100 Intro to Creative Writing	
CW 200 Reading for Writers	
Craft	3
CW 243 The Craft Essay: Creative Reading, Reflection, and Revision	
Creative Writing Workshops	12
12 hours of Creative Writing Workshops, including at least one of the following 3-course (9-hour) Workshop sequences:	

CW 106 Poetry Workshop I & CW 206 Poetry Workshop II & CW 406 Poetry Workshop III	
or	
CW 104 Fiction Workshop I & CW 204 Fiction Workshop II & CW 404 Fiction Workshop III	
The remaining 3 hours in this category can be satisfied by a fourth CW Workshop outside of the chosen sequence. ¹	
Writing and Literature	3
3 hours of Writing and Literature coursework, either:	
3 hours of non-Workshop CW coursework (CW 460, or another approved non-Workshop CW course) ²	
or	
3 hours of ENGL coursework ³	
Additional Literature Coursework⁴	12
12 additional hours of approved ENGL coursework, including:	
9 hours of approved ENGL Literature coursework ⁵	
3 hours of an ENGL <i>Difference & Diaspora</i> course ⁶	
TOTAL HOURS	36

¹ CW 404 and CW 406 may be repeated once for credit, but may not be repeated to fulfill this requirement.

² Some sections of CW 199, CW 202, and CW 463 may or may not count as a non-Workshop class, depending on the topics offered in a given semester.

³ These hours must be taken at the 200-level or above

⁴ A maximum of 3 hours of 100-level coursework may be counted towards the Additional Literature Coursework requirement.

⁵ Chosen from a list maintained by the Creative Writing program and the English Advising office

⁶ Chosen from the *Difference & Diaspora* list maintained by the English program and the English Advising office

Comparative Table of Proposed Changes^a

Current Requirements	Current Hours	Proposed Requirements	Proposed Hours
Literature Foundational Coursework CW 100 Intro to Creative Writing CW 200 Reading for Writers	6	Literature for Creative Writers CW 100 Intro to Creative Writing CW 200 Reading for Writers	6
Expository Writing (Advanced Composition) CW 243 Inter Expository Writing ¹	3	Craft CW 243 The Craft Essay: Creative Reading, Reflection, and Revision	3
Creative Writing Coursework Students complete 12 hours of creative writing coursework, including at least one of the following 3-course (9-hour) sequences: CW 106 Intro to Poetry Writing & CW 206 Intermediate Poetry Writing & CW 406 Advanced Poetry Writing OR CW 104 Intro to Narrative Writing & CW 204 Intermediate Narrative Writing & CW 404 Advanced Narrative Writing The remaining three hours of writing coursework can be satisfied by a fourth CW workshop outside of the mandatory sequence or any of the following writing courses: ENGL 401, 402, 403, and 481; BTW 250, 261, and 271; CMN 310, 423, and 432; JOUR 475; and THEA 211	12	Creative Writing Workshops 12 hours of creative writing Workshops, including at least one of the following 3-course (9-hour) Workshop sequences: CW 106 Poetry Workshop I & CW 206 Poetry Workshop II & CW 406 Poetry Workshop III or CW 104 Fiction Workshop I & CW 204 Fiction Workshop II & CW 404 Fiction Workshop III The remaining 3 hours in this category can be satisfied by a fourth CW Workshop outside of the chosen sequence. ^b	12
Shakespeare ENGL 418 Shakespeare <i>or</i> ENGL 218 Introduction to Shakespeare	3	Writing and Literature 3 hours of non-Workshop CW coursework: CW 460, or another approved non-Workshop CW course <i>or</i> 3 hours of ENGL coursework	3
Literature Coursework: 6 hours of English or American literature coursework chosen from approved list.	6	Additional Literature Coursework 12 additional hours of approved ENGL coursework, including:	12

		<p>9 hours of approved ENGL Literature coursework^c</p> <p>3 hours of an ENGL <i>Difference & Diaspora</i> course^d</p> <p>No more than 3 hours of 100-level coursework may be taken to meet the Additional Literature Coursework requirement.</p>	
<p>Supporting Coursework: History and Culture Coursework.</p> <p>Choose one of the following pairs:</p> <p>CWL 241 <i>and</i> CWL 242 Masterpieces of West Culture I & II</p> <p>HIST 141 Western Civ to 1660 <i>and</i> HIST 142 Western Civ Since 1660</p> <p>HIST 171 US Hist to 1877 <i>and</i> HIST 172 US Hist Since 1877</p> <p>HIST 255 British Isles to 1688 <i>and</i> HIST 256 Great Britain Since 1688</p>	6		
<p>Total hours</p> <p>1. Credit is not given for both CW 243 and RHET 233. Students who have taken RHET 233 prior to declaring the CW major must take CW 208-Creative Nonfiction Writing instead of CW 243 to complete this requirement. Students who take CW 208 for their Expository Writing requirement cannot count CW 208 toward the required 12 hours of Creative Writing coursework.</p> <p>Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus, of which at least three hours must be Creative Writing Courses (CW 404 or CW 406).</p>	36	<p>Total hours</p> <p>Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus, of which at least three hours must be Creative Writing Courses (CW 404 or CW 406).</p>	36

All Creative Writing courses must be taken in sequence (CW 104 before CW 204, etc.)			
All foreign language requirements must be satisfied.			

^a The titles of several of our courses were revised in fall 2020. Old course titles are still listed in the *Current Requirements* column; new course titles are reflected in the *Proposed Requirements* column.

^b Previously, this has been interpreted to mean that students could simply repeat 404 or 406 to fulfil this requirement; our new major clarifies that the 4th workshop must be taken in a different genre than their chosen sequence.

^c see Appendix A

^d see Appendix B

APPENDIX A: Approved list of ENGL courses for CW Majors

*Courses marked with a * may or may not meet the requirement for a Literature class, depending on the topics offered in a given semester.*

- ENGL 101 Intro to Poetry
- ENGL 102 Intro to Drama
- ENGL 103 Intro to Fiction
- ENGL 109 Intro to Fiction-ACP
- ENGL 112 Literature of Global Culture
- ENGL 115 Intro to British Literature
- ENGL 116 Introduction to American Literature
- ENGL 150 Black Literature in America
- ENGL 200 Introduction to the Study of Literature and Culture
- ENGL 202 Medieval Literature and Culture
- ENGL 204 Renaissance Literature and Culture
- ENGL 206 Enlightenment Literature and Culture
- ENGL 207 Romantic Literature and Culture
- ENGL 208 Victorian Literature and Culture
- ENGL 209 Early British Literature and Culture
- ENGL 210 British Literature from 1800 to the Present
- ENGL 211 Introduction to Modern African Literature
- ENGL 213 Modernist Literature and Culture
- ENGL 216 Legends of King Arthur
- ENGL 218 Introduction to Shakespeare
- ENGL 219 Literature and Medicine
- ENGL 220 Literature and Science
- ENGL 221 Speculative Futures
- ENGL 222 Jewish American and US Minority Literatures in Dialogue
- ENGL 223 Jewish Storytelling
- ENGL 224 Latina/o Popular Culture
- ENGL 225 Intro to Latina/o Literature
- ENGL 241 Modern Poetry
- ENGL 242 Contemporary Poetry
- ENGL 245 The Short Story
- ENGL 247 The British Novel
- ENGL 248 British, American, and Continental Fiction
- ENGL 250 Nineteenth-Century American Fiction
- ENGL 251 The Twentieth-Century American Novel
- ENGL 255 Early American Literature and Culture
- ENGL 256 Survey of American Lit II
- ENGL 259 Early African American Literature and Culture
- ENGL 260 Modern African American Literature and Culture
- ENGL 261 Topics in Literature and Culture *

- ENGL 265 Intro to American Indian Lit
ENGL 266 Grimm's Fairy Tales in Context
ENGL 267 Grimm's Fairy Tales - ACP
ENGL 280 Women Writers
ENGL 281 Women in the Literary Imagination
ENGL 284 Modern Jewish Literature
ENGL 285 Postcolonial Literature in English
ENGL 286 Asian American Literature
ENGL 325 Topics in LGBT Literature and Film *
ENGL 330 Slavery and Identity
ENGL 350 Writing about Literature, Text, and Culture *
ENGL 357 Literatures of the Displaced
ENGL 359 Lit Responses to the Holocaust
ENGL 402 Descriptive English Grammar
ENGL 407 Introduction to Old English
ENGL 411 Chaucer
ENGL 412 Topics in Medieval British and Irish Literature
ENGL 416 Topics in British Drama to 1660
ENGL 418 Shakespeare
ENGL 421 Renaissance Poetry and Prose
ENGL 423 Milton
ENGL 427 Eighteenth-Century Literature
ENGL 428 British Drama, 1660-1800
ENGL 429 Eighteenth-Century Fiction
ENGL 431 Topics in British Romantic Literature
ENGL 435 Nineteenth-Century British Fiction
ENGL 441 Innovation and Conflict in British and Irish Modernism
ENGL 442 Contemporary British and Irish Literature
ENGL 449 American Romanticism
ENGL 450 Becoming Modern: American Literature, 1865-1914
ENGL 451 American Literature in the Age of Modernism
ENGL 452 The Postwar Era and Contemporary American Literature
ENGL 455 Major Authors
ENGL 459 Topics in American Indian Lit
ENGL 460 Literature of American Minorities
ENGL 461 Advanced Topics in Literature and Culture *
ENGL 462 Topics in Modern Fiction
ENGL 470 Modern African Fiction
ENGL 475 Literature and Other Disciplines
ENGL 476 Topics in Literature and the Environment

APPENDIX B: English program Difference & Diaspora list

*Courses marked with a * may or may not count for Difference & Diaspora depending on the topics offered in a given semester.*

- ENGL 112: Literature of Global Culture
- ENGL 150: Black Literature in America
- ENGL 211: Introduction to African Literature
- ENGL 222: Jewish American and US Minority Literatures in Dialogue
- ENGL 223: Jewish Storytelling
- ENGL 224: Latina/o Popular Culture
- ENGL 225: Introduction to Latina/o Literature
- ENGL 253: Topics in Literature and New Media*
- ENGL 259: Early African American Literature and Culture
- ENGL 260: Modern African American Literature and Culture
- ENGL 261: Topics in Literature and Culture*
- ENGL 265: Intro to American Indian Literature
- ENGL 272: Minority Images in American Film
- ENGL 275: American Indians & Film
- ENGL 276: Asian Film Genres
- ENGL 280: Women Writers*
- ENGL 281: Women in the Literary Imagination*
- ENGL 284: Modern Jewish Literature
- ENGL 285: Postcolonial Literature in English
- ENGL 286: Asian American Literature
- ENGL 325 Topics in LGBT Literature and Film
- ENGL 330: Slavery and Identity
- ENGL 350: Writing about Literature, Text, and Culture*
- ENGL 373: Special Topics in Film Studies*
- ENGL 374: World Cinema in English
- ENGL 380: Topics in Writing Studies*
- ENGL 396: English Honors Seminar*
- ENGL 412: Topics in Medieval British and Irish Literature*
- ENGL 416: Topics in British Drama to 1660*
- ENGL 435: Nineteenth-Century British Fiction*
- ENGL 452: The Postwar Era and Contemporary American Literature*
- ENGL 455: Major Authors*
- ENGL 458: Latina/o Performance
- ENGL 459: Topics in American Indian Literature
- ENGL 460: Literature of American Minorities
- ENGL 461: Advanced Topics in Literature and Culture*
- ENGL 470: Modern African Fiction
- ENGL 475: Literature and Other Disciplines*

Appendix C: Clearance Letters from the Department of History and the Program in Comparative and World Literature



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

Department of History
309 Gregory Hall, MC-466
810 S. Wright St.
Urbana, IL 61801-3697

September 3, 2020

**Professor Ted Sanders
Director of Creative Writing
Department of English**

Dear Professor Sanders,

Thank you for notifying the Department of History of the proposed changes to the undergraduate curriculum in the Creative Writing program. This revision includes the elimination of the six-hour History and Culture requirement that has been fulfilled by Creative Writing majors who took the following course sequences: HIST 141/HIST 142, HIST 171/HIST 172, and HIST 255/HIST 256.

If you should need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Rabin".

Dana Rabin
Professor and Chair
Lynn M. Martin Professorial Scholar



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

Comparative & World Literature
3072 Foreign Languages Building, MC-160
707 S. Mathews Ave.
Urbana, IL 61801-3643

August 31, 2020

Dear Professor Sanders,

Comparative & World Literature has been duly notified of your recent decision to remove the six hour History and Culture requirement from the Creative Writing major, and we are aware of its potential impact on CWL 241-242. While we regret the decision (enrollments in CWL 241-242 declined over the course of about a decade from over 300 down to 30, before returning to a “new norm” of about 100), we also recognize that Creative Writing is taking the same path as many units before it in trying to make your major as accessible and as flexible as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert A. Rushing". The signature is fluid and cursive, with some loops and variations in line thickness.

Robert A. Rushing, Professor and Director
Program in Comparative & World Literature
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Department of French & Italian
Media & Cinema Studies
Unit for Criticism & Interpretive Theory
European Union Center
Campus Honors Program

ACADEMIC CATALOG ENTRY

OVERVIEW tab:

department website: [English](#)

program website: [Creative Writing](#)

advising: [English & Creative Writing advising](#)

college website: [College of Liberal Arts & Sciences](#)

overview of college admissions & requirements: [LAS Admissions](#)

The Creative Writing major, housed in the Department of English, combines small workshops in poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction with specialized courses in craft, practice, publishing, and editing, supported by a wide variety of literature courses under both the CW and ENGL rubrics. The result is a strong but flexible program of study that develops students' creative, professional, and analytical skills, preparing them for careers and graduate studies in any number of writing-related fields.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS tab:

for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts & Sciences Major in Creative Writing

Minimum required course work equates to 36 hours in CW and ENGL courses. Twelve hours of 300- or 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus, of which at least 3 hours must be Creative Writing courses (CW 404 or CW 406).

General education: Students must complete the [Campus General Education](#) requirements.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours

Major Requirements

Literature for Creative Writers	6
CW 100 Intro to Creative Writing	
CW 200 Reading for Writers	
Craft	3
CW 243 The Craft Essay: Creative Reading, Reflection, and Revision	
Creative Writing Workshops	12
12 hours of Creative Writing Workshops, including at least one of the following 3-course (9-hour) Workshop sequences:	

CW 106 Poetry Workshop I & CW 206 Poetry Workshop II & CW 406 Poetry Workshop III	
or	
CW 104 Fiction Workshop I & CW 204 Fiction Workshop II & CW 404 Fiction Workshop III	
The remaining 3 hours in this category can be satisfied by a fourth CW Workshop outside of the chosen sequence. ¹	
Writing and Literature	3
3 hours of Writing and Literature coursework, either:	
3 hours of non-Workshop CW coursework (CW 460, or another approved non-Workshop CW course) ²	
or	
3 hours of ENGL coursework ³	
Additional Literature Coursework⁴	12
12 additional hours of approved ENGL coursework, including:	
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3 hours of an ENGL <i>Difference & Diaspora</i> course ⁶	
TOTAL HOURS	36

¹ CW 404 and CW 406 may be repeated once for credit, but may not be repeated to fulfill this requirement.

² Some sections of CW 199, CW 202, and CW 463 may or may not count as a non-Workshop class, depending on the topics offered in a given semester.

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⁴ A maximum of 3 hours of 100-level coursework may be counted towards the Additional Literature Coursework requirement.

⁵ Chosen from a list maintained by the Creative Writing program and the English Advising office

⁶ Chosen from the *Difference & Diaspora* list maintained by the English program and the English Advising office

Appendix C: Clearance Letters from the Department of History and the Program in Comparative and World Literature



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

Department of History
309 Gregory Hall, MC-466
810 S. Wright St.
Urbana, IL 61801-3697

September 3, 2020

Professor Ted Sanders
Director of Creative Writing
Department of English

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If you should need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Rabin".

Dana Rabin
Professor and Chair
Lynn M. Martin Professorial Scholar



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

Comparative & World Literature
3072 Foreign Languages Building, MC-160
707 S. Mathews Ave.
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August 31, 2020

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert A. Rushing".

Robert A. Rushing, Professor and Director
Program in Comparative & World Literature
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Department of French & Italian
Media & Cinema Studies
Unit for Criticism & Interpretive Theory
European Union Center
Campus Honors Program

APPENDIX A: Approved list of ENGL courses for CW Majors

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- ENGL 460: Literature of American Minorities
- ENGL 461: Advanced Topics in Literature and Culture*
- ENGL 470: Modern African Fiction
- ENGL 475: Literature and Other Disciplines*

From: Pahre, Jennifer N <jpahre@illinois.edu>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 10:32 AM
To: Sanders, Ted <ted@illinois.edu>
Cc: Lehman, Barbara J <bjlehman@illinois.edu>; Martensen, Kathy <kmartens@illinois.edu>
Subject: Re: Proposal to Revise the BALAS in Creative Writing

Hi Ted,

This is just the information that I needed; thank you for your extremely prompt response.

I personally know a fiction student who greatly benefitted from a poetry workshop, and I'm a fan of encouraging students to stretch a bit and reach outside their comfort zone. The proposal to extend the workshop requirement seems like an excellent idea to me.

I'll present the proposal on Monday.

All best,
Jennie



College of Law
Jennifer N. Pahre
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Assistant Teaching Professor
University of Illinois College of Law
504 East Pennsylvania Avenue
Champaign, Illinois 61820

Pronouns: She/her/hers

From: Sanders, Ted <ted@illinois.edu>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 9:23 AM
To: Pahre, Jennifer N <jpahre@illinois.edu>
Cc: Lehman, Barbara J <bjlehman@illinois.edu>; Martensen, Kathy <kmartens@illinois.edu>
Subject: Re: Proposal to Revise the BALAS in Creative Writing

Hi Jennie. Good to hear from you and thanks for reaching out. Your thoughts are pretty much right on. I should preface by saying that we learned belatedly that we were working with the 2019 form when putting our revision together, and it seems there were some small differences between that and the current form. Therefore if I'm off target with what you're asking on number 1 below, let me know.

1. **Estimated degrees:** The proposal I submitted to LAS did include info on the estimated number of degrees awarded; perhaps it got dropped somewhere in the process along the way. We anticipate at most a small increase, but possibly no increase. You're right to suggest that the

primary goal is to change the makeup of our offerings. We currently award between 30-40 degrees annually. From our original submission:

Estimated Annual Number of Degrees Awarded

Year 1: 35-40

Year 5 (or when fully implemented): 35-50

2. **Fourth workshop requirement.** Excellent point here; this isn't a very student-centered way of phrasing it. You're articulating the underlying impetus exactly right, though. Under our old requirements, students could take an entire sequence of workshops and never venture into a different genre (other than the exposure they get in our required multi-genre classes like CW100 and CW243). We therefore made the change to prevent students from taking all their required workshops in a single genre, thus exposing them to a broader variety of literary forms.

I mentioned poetry enrollment specifically because we get twice the numbers in our fiction workshops as in our poetry workshops, and we'd like to see that change. Fiction and poetry are our two main areas of study and specialization for our faculty. However, we stopped short of requiring a poetry workshop outright because we also offer standalone workshops in other genres—creative nonfiction, lyrical essay, screenwriting, humor writing, etc. The purpose of this proposed change is to move students out of their comfort zones as artists, to encourage them to try their hand at genres and forms that they might otherwise shy away from, and to expose them to work they might otherwise have only peripherally encountered.

Thanks so much, I hope this was helpful. Let me know if you need any other information.

All best,
Ted

From: "Pahre, Jennifer N" <jpahre@illinois.edu>
Date: Wednesday, November 11, 2020 at 3:02 PM
To: "Sanders, Ted" <ted@illinois.edu>
Cc: "Lehman, Barbara J" <bilehman@illinois.edu>, "Martensen, Kathy" <kmartens@illinois.edu>
Subject: Proposal to Revise the BALAS in Creative Writing

Dear Professor Sanders,

I hope that your week is going well, and that you and your family are keeping healthy.

I'm the chair of subcommittee A of the Senate Educational Policy Committee. Your proposal from the Department of English (referenced above) came to my subcommittee for initial review. The subcommittee thinks that this proposal to streamline the BALAS in Creative Writing is both timely and well-planned.

A couple members of my subcommittee had just a few questions. As you are listed as the proposal's sponsors, I am reaching out. Our next Ed Pol meeting is November 16th. I am not

sure if it will be possible to clear up these questions before then. In an idea world, I would present your proposal with the questions answered to facilitate its swift approval.

Here are the questions (and my thoughts follow in italics):

For creative writing, BALAS:

- 1) There is no answer provided for the estimated annual number of degrees to be awarded. Is this information available? (*From my review of the proposal, it does not seem that the number of anticipated annual degrees will change. The change is in the composition of the courses. Perhaps you could confirm my understanding.*)
- 2) The department has added a workshop requirement that they “hope will increase enrollment in our poetry courses”. This reason, from a student outcomes perspective, may not be ideally stated. (*It seems to me that the workshop requirement, in part, was added to increase diversity in workshop enrollment – and to encourage students to build skills in a variety of areas of writing. Please let me know if I've got this right.*)

Thank you in advance for your assistance; I sincerely appreciate it.

Kind regards,

Jennie

Jennifer N. Pahre
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Assistant Teaching Professor
University of Illinois College of Law