



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
WHITEWATER

ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT

ENGLISH- CREATIVE WRITING

MISSION STATEMENT

The Creative Writing Program deepens students' understanding of literary composition and actively engages them in the craft and practice of creative writing. Students learn to read literature as writers, paying particular attention to voice, style, form, language, and technique. They study narrative structures and poetic forms used by contemporary authors and implement those and other craft elements and strategies in their own work. They practice writing and revision in multiple genres, and, by the end of the program, produce a substantial body of original creative work. Creative writing students also develop the ability to effectively read, evaluate, and respond to the work of others as they collaborate and communicate through oral and written peer critique. The program prepares students not only for writing and publishing careers, but for any field that requires critical reading, writing, or communication skills.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Student learning outcomes (SLOs) are statements of what a student will know or be able to do when they have completed a program. They represent the knowledge and skills a program has determined are most important for students to gain from that program. The most useful SLOs are specific and measurable so the program can accurately assess the degree to which students have achieved each outcome, and they align with college and institution mission and values. Data on achievement of SLOs is used to make improvements in the program and increase student success.

All English Majors will emerge from the program with the ability to:

- Read texts closely for nuances of language, content, and form
- Write effectively and produce clear and coherent prose demonstrating effective use of grammar and style
- Construct arguments and execute well-structured, thesis-driven interpretations based on textual evidence
- Conduct research
- Develop extended arguments that take account of existing scholarly conversations
- Analyze conventions
- Analyze texts using an understanding of generic conventions and literary devices
- Place literary traditions and situate major texts within the contexts of the literature of the British Isles and the United States
- Demonstrate awareness of English as a language, including its systematic structure, history, and uses

English Creative Writing Majors will emerge from the program with the additional ability to:

- Read literature as a writer with particular attention to voice, style, form, language, and technique
- Practice writing and revision as a craft with attention to voice, style, form, language, technique, and other elements of literary composition
- Collaborate and communicate effectively through writing, sharing, and revising creative work
- Produce a body of polished, original creative work