



# CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS POLICY MANUAL

**Division of Academic Affairs**  
**Approved By:** Academic Senate  
May 10, 2016

**Policy Number:** SP 15-19  
**Effective Date:** Fall 2016  
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## Policy on the Creative Writing Minor

**PURPOSE:**

See pages 2-3

**BACKGROUND:**

See pages 3-4

**POLICY:**

**Accountability:**

See pages 2-3

**Applicability:**

See pages 3-4

**Definition(s):**

See pages 3-4

**Policy Text:**

See pages 3-6

**EXHIBIT(S):**

none

**CSU Channel Islands  
 PROPOSAL TO  
 INITIATE A NEW MINOR  
 SIGNATURE PAGE**

Name of Proposed Minor:	Creative Writing Minor
Date of Submission:	Sept. 17, 2015; 02.25.16
Faculty Proposing New Program:	Joan K. Peters

**Review and Approval Signatures:**

1. Proposer:		Date:	
2. Program Chair (if applicable)		Date:	
3. Curriculum Chair:		Date:	
4. Academic Senate Chair:		Date:	
5. AVP Academic Programs and Planning		Date:	
6. Provost:		Date:	
7. President or Designee:		Date:	

**Internal Note: Please return this document to the Curriculum Committee. Due by October 1<sup>st</sup> for consideration for the following academic year.**

## CSU Channel Islands PROPOSAL TO INITIATE A NEW MINOR

This form is to be used when the proposed new minor is in a field where no major exists, or where a current major does not have a minor field. (If academic minors are developed as part of a new major proposal, this *Proposal for a New Minor* does not have to be completed.)

Senate Resolution 2-01 requires that minor must have a minimum of fifteen (15) units, nine (9) of which must be upper division.

1. Program Identification

- a. Name of the Minor: **Creative Writing Minor**
- b. Academic Program(s) Proposing the Minor  
**English Program**

2. Program Description

a. Provide a description of the Minor and its Student Learning Outcomes.  
The Creative Writing Minor will allow students majoring in any subject to simultaneously cultivate their interest in creative writing and receive appropriate credit for achieving competency in writing fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction, and plays and screenplays. Students who complete the Creative Writing Minor will be able to: express themselves in the major creative writing genres, articulate the techniques involved in successful creative writing in those genres, edit their own and their peers' work, discuss the work of many major contemporary creative writers, accurately evaluate their own and their peers' creative work, and master the fundamentals of publishing a literary journal.

- b. How does the Minor support the University's Mission and Strategic Goals?

The minor supports the university mission of interdisciplinarity by encouraging students to combine the discipline of their major with the discipline of Creative Writing. It also teaches them how to use the content and perspectives learned in their major for their creative writing. Creative writing, by its very nature, is experiential learning; in "workshop" classes, students not only write, they edit one another's stories. Service learning will be encouraged by offering students the opportunity to write stories about the lives of people they interview in our community, from farmers to farmworkers and volunteers to political organizers. Finally, the Creative Writing minor brings an international and multicultural perspective by 1)

inviting students to write about their own diverse lives and 2) reading the work of other writers from diverse countries and backgrounds.

- c. Provide a catalog description of the Minor. Use the format in which it will appear in the catalog, including a program description, careers associated with the minor, and faculty names and titles.

Catalog description: The Creative Writing Minor allows non-majors to build their creative writing skills and to learn about publishing their work. The Creative Writing Minor can enrich any major by cultivating excellence in writing and by providing creative outlets for the content and concepts the student has learned in the major. Storytelling is fundamental to communication, and students who minor in Creative Writing will be able to use writing techniques in many of their intended careers, such as teaching, communications, journalism, marketing, and the sciences and the social sciences. The minor in Creative Writing will also draw attention to any job applicant's writing skills. A minor in Creative Writing requires a grade of C or better in each course.

### 3. Curriculum

- a. Lower and Upper Division Course Requirements (including pre- and co-requisites.) Identify required elective courses. Identify currently available course in the catalog, and separately identify newly developed courses.

## **Creative Writing Minor – 15 Units**

**Note:** Non-English majors may choose this minor. English majors may choose the Creative Writing Option in the major.

### **LOWER DIVISION REQUIREMENTS: 3 UNITS**

*Choose one course from the following:*

ENGL 160, Genre Fiction

ENGL 260, Introduction to Creative Writing

### **UPPER DIVISION REQUIREMENTS: 12 UNITS**

#### **Required courses:**

*Choose three courses from the following:*

ENGL 461, Fiction Writing (prerequisite: ENGL 160 or ENGL 260 or Consent of Instructor)

ENGL 462, Poetry Writing (prerequisite: ENGL 160 or ENGL 260 or Consent of Instructor)

ENGL/PATH 463, Writing for the Stage (prerequisite: ENGL 160 or ENGL 260 or Consent of Instructor)

ENGL 464, Creative Non-Fiction (prerequisite: ENGL 160 or ENGL 260 or Consent of Instructor)

ENGL/PA 466, Screenwriting (prerequisite: ENGL 160 or ENGL 260 or Consent of Instructor)

*Additional required course:*

ENGL 465, Creative Writing Project (prerequisite: Completion of ENGL 160 or ENGL 260 and 9 units from ENGL 461, ENGL 462, ENGL 463, ENGL 464 or ENGL 466; or Consent of Instructor)

- b. Total number of units in the Minor (including pre- and co-requisites).  
**15**

4. Academic Structure and Enrollment

- a. Identify the program area and persons responsible for program management and oversight. English Program. Brad Monsma, Chair, has ultimate responsibility. Coordinators of Creative Writing, Joan Peters and Sean Carswell will manage the program.
- b. Estimate of number of students enrolling in the minor, in the initial year and after three (3) and five (5) years. Provide a brief justification for this projection. Over the years, students have come to us to ask if they could minor in Creative Writing. In our Introduction to Creative Writing course, there are always several students from other disciplines who excel as writers. They generally wish to take more writing and cultivate their talent. The minor would give them credit for doing so.

	<b>Number of Students in the Minor</b>
<b>Initiation Year:</b>	10
<b>Third Year:</b>	20
<b>Fifth Year:</b>	40

5. Faculty and Staff Resources

- a. Existing faculty and staff qualified to teach in and support the minor,

including the percent of their work assignment contributing to the minor.

**Brad Monsma, Joan Peters, Sean Carswell, Bob Mayberry, Sofia Samatar, Mary Adler, Julia Balen, Kristin FitzPatrick, Claudia Reder. The entire curriculum in the minor consists of existing courses. Occasional advising questions will fall to the program chair and coordinator of creative writing. The percentage of additional work assignment is too low to list.**

- b. Additional faculty and staff needed for the minor and the areas of expertise needed. If no new faculty or staff are needed, please explain briefly.

**Nearly all our tenured faculty and many of our lecturers have either published creative work or hold MFA degrees.**

6. Facilities, Equipment, Financial, and Information Resources

- a. Existing facilities, equipment, and information resources available to support the minor.

**None.**

- b. External funding already in progress or anticipated. **None needed.**

- c. Facilities, Equipment and Information Resources Needed to Support the Minor. If no new resources are needed, please explain briefly.

**None.**