

Curriculum Change Form (Present only one proposed curriculum change per form) (Complete only the section(s) applicable.)

Part I

(Check one) <input type="checkbox"/> New Course (Parts II, IV) <input type="checkbox"/> Course Revision (Parts II, IV) <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid Course ("S," "W") <input type="checkbox"/> Course Dropped (Part II) <input type="checkbox"/> New Program (Part III) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Program Revision (Part III) <input type="checkbox"/> Program Suspended (Part III)	Department Name English and Theatre <hr/> College Arts and Sciences <hr/> *Course Prefix & Number <hr/> *Course Title (30 characters) <hr/> *Program Title Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing (Major __, Option __; Minor __; or Certificate __) <hr/> *Provide only the information relevant to the proposal.	
Proposal Approved by:		
	Date 2/12/2010	Date 4/30/2010
	Departmental Committee	Graduate Council*
	3/1/2010	Council on Academic Affairs
	N/A	Approved x Disapproved
	N/A	Faculty Senate**
	N/A	Board of Regents**
		Council on Postsecondary Edu.***
*If Applicable (Type NA if not applicable.) **Approval needed for new, revised, or suspended programs ***Approval/Posting needed for new degree program or certificate program ****If "yes", SACS must be notified before implementation. Please contact EKU's Office of Institutional Effectiveness.		

Completion of A, B, and C is required: (Please be specific, but concise.)

A. 1. Specific action requested: (Example: To increase the number of credit hours for ABC 100 from 1 to 2.)
 To alter the existing catalog description of the MFA program's curriculum and exit requirements to reflect significant changes agreed upon by the current faculty members teaching in the program. These include: 1) Revised dates for the Summer and Winter Residencies; 2) A formal creative thesis (previously not required); 3) A written exit examination (previously not required).

A. 2. Effective date: (Example: Fall 2001)
 Fall 2010

3. Effective date of suspended programs for currently enrolled students: (if applicable)
 N/A

B. The justification for this action:
 The current catalog descriptions of the MFA program's curriculum and exit requirements are outdated. In the time since these original descriptions were drafted and approved, the structure of the MFA program has changed significantly. The program's Winter Residency is now scheduled to be held in January each year at an off-campus residency site for ten to fourteen days, rather than on-campus for seven to ten days, as the current program description states. The program's Summer Residency is now scheduled to be held in June and/or July each year at an off-campus residency site for ten to fourteen days, rather than on-campus for seven to ten days, as the current program description states. Based on the suggestions of our new faculty members (three of the four permanent faculty members who now teach in the MFA program joined our department in the fall of 2008), and in keeping with the "best practices" guidelines established by the Associated Writing Programs for brief-residency creative writing programs like our own, we have opted to require a formal thesis and a written examination as exit requirements for each of our MFA students.

C. The projected cost (or savings) of this proposal is as follows:

Personnel Impact: None

Operating Expenses Impact: None

Equipment/Physical Facility Needs: None

Library Resources: None

Part III. Recording Data for New, Revised, or Suspended Program

1. For a new program, provide the catalog description as being proposed.
2. For a revised program, provide the current program requirements using ~~strickethrough~~ for deletions and *underlines* for additions.
3. For a suspended program, provide the current program requirements as shown in catalog. List any options and/or minors affected by the program's suspension.

New or Revised* Program Text
(*Use ~~strickethrough~~ for deletions and underlines for additions.)

MASTER OF FINE ARTS
Creative Writing

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

This graduate program in English is designed to train students in various areas of the creative writing discipline and provide them with both depth and breadth appropriate to the advanced level. As this degree is considered terminal in the field of creative writing, students are trained to be able to teach at the college level as well as to develop their own writing talent.

Graduate students in the MFA-CW program may prepare for careers of teaching on the college and pre-college level; engage in creative writing at a PhD level; or pursue other pre-professional or personal goals.

II. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are required to submit a portfolio of work in their desired concentration (poetry, fiction, or creative nonfiction) to the Department's MFA committee and have the work approved. The writing sample will consist of 15 pages of poetry or 20 pages of prose. The portfolio will also include a two-page statement of purpose that addresses the applicant's reasons for applying. Applicants should also have completed an undergraduate bachelor's degree, with at least a minor in English and/or be prepared to complete additional hours to remove any deficiency in their undergraduate preparations. Ordinarily, a 3.0 standing must have been achieved in upper-division English courses. Applicants must meet the general requirements of the Graduate School, and achieve satisfactory scores on the Graduate Record Examination. The committee reserves the right to waive certain departmental requirements in the event that a writing sample is exceptional.

III. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete 48 hours in the program ~~plus a comprehensive presentation, as well as an approved creative thesis.~~ Students must also pass a written exit examination. Each year in the program, ~~is comprised of full-time students generally attend two ten-to-fourteen-day residencies (during which students and faculty meet in person) and (for a total of six credit hours), and enroll in 18 credit hours of online classes under the direction of our faculty of practicing writers.~~ The Winter MFA Residency (ENW 800) is held in early January each year at a hotel/conference center in Lexington, KY. The Summer Writing Residency (ENW 801) is held each year during June/July in an international location, such as *San Miguel de Allende*, Mexico. The Summer Writing Residency is hosted by the ECU MFA program in partnership with the Brief-Residency MFA program of the University of New Orleans. ECU students who attend the Summer Residency study with students and faculty from a consortium of other creative writing programs from across the United States, including the creative writing programs of California State University at Fresno, Georgia State University, the University of Memphis, and the University of New Orleans. During both residencies, MFA students attend intensive creative writing workshops (in a selected genre), craft classes, lectures, public readings, and other events.

~~Normally, mentors will be assigned during the residency, and students will be allowed to choose mentors whenever possible. Once a mentor-student relationship has been established, the pair will draw up a fourteen-week course of study that allows the student to develop his/her writing skills. Similar to an independent study, students will work on their own (reading, writing, revising) sending in work to their mentor (amount to be determined by mentor) every three weeks.~~

- Courses48 hours**
- ENW 800.....3 hours
~~(repeatable up to 12 hours with different topics)~~ Students must complete four sections of any combination of ENW 800 and/or ENW 801. Topic must vary in each section. Course content is not to be repeated.)
- ENW 801..... 3 hours
(Students must complete four sections of any combination of ENW 801 and/or ENW 800. Topic must vary in each section. Course content is not to be repeated.)
- ENW 810.....3 hours
~~(repeatable up to 12 hours with different topics)~~ Students must complete four sections of this course. Topic must vary in each section. Course content is not to be repeated.)
- ENW 820.....6 hours
~~(repeatable up to 12 hours with different topics)~~ Students must complete four sections of this course. Topic must vary in each section. Course content is not to be repeated.)

IV. EXIT REQUIREMENTS

Thesis — ~~By the time a student has taken completed the fourth required section of ENW 820 Low-Residency Mentoring MFA Writing Workshop/Mentorship (6 credits) the required four times, they should he/she will have produced a book-length work creative thesis of publishable quality. The thesis must be approved by the MFA Committee. (Detailed information concerning the preparation and submission of the creative thesis may be obtained from the MFA program coordinator.)~~

Comprehensive Presentation Exit Examination— ~~During the student’s final residency, he/she will be required to give a researched presentation on a published writer, an element of craft, an aspect of the writing process, or other topic as approved by the Creative Writing faculty. successfully pass a written exit examination. (Detailed information concerning the requirements for the exit examination may be obtained from the MFA program coordinator.)~~