

Creative Writing Minor

Coordinator: Rosemurgy

The minor in Creative Writing emphasizes the connection between thoughtful reading and literary writing and offers students the opportunity to learn the craft of writing. Students will study the works of published writers; write and revise their own work; examine, critique, and support each other's work in and out of workshop.

The workshop component of the minor provides incremental exposure to the writing process. In CWR 206 Creative Writing, students are introduced to poetry and fiction writing. At the 300-level, students continue their study in workshops that focus on a single genre (CWR 304 Poetry Workshop and CWR 306 Fiction Workshop). CWR 370: Special Topics in Creative Writing offers students an opportunity to study genres and approaches not offered elsewhere in the minor. CWR 406 Writer's Workshop (when offered) is a capstone class in creative writing. During the class, students produce a significant body of work, such as a chapbook of poems or a series of stories.

In CWR 301 Writing Communities, students also learn practical applications for their research and writing skills. The course offers students exposure to careers that require the skills they are developing via the English major and/or Creative Writing minor. Assignments are drawn from a variety of professional fields, such as publishing, editing, marketing, and publicity. Students in this class organize TCNJ's Visiting Writers Series and gain hands-on experience working with authors and planning events.

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. Interested students should meet with the Coordinator of Creative Writing 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 in total

Three required courses:

- CWR 206/Creative Writing (required of all minors)
- CWR 304/Poetry Workshop
- CWR 306/Fiction Workshop

Two additional courses selected among:

- CWR 301/Writing Communities
- CWR 370/Special Topics in Creative Writing
- CWR 406/Writers' Workshop (when offered)

- Unlike other courses in the minor, CWR 406 is only offered in years when there are a sufficient number of upper-level students. It is *not* a required course for the minor, as it was previously.
- *Workshops can be repeated for credit, but only after fulfilling the above requirements. CWR 370 Special Topics in Creative Writing is a natural course to repeat because it has different topics each year.*
- No more than one course taken toward the student's major may be counted in the creative writing minor.