

August, 2024

Dear GELS Committee:

Thank you for your time in reviewing the following six courses in creative writing to fulfill the requirements of Goal 6:

WRIT 352: Writing Memoir; WRIT 353: Writing Short Fiction; WRIT 354: Writing Poetry; WRIT 356: Humor Writing; WRIT 357: Writers as Readers; WRIT 358: 1000 Words or Less; WRIT 481: Advanced Creative Writing.

You will find overlap in these courses due to our workshop environment. It is essential that initially all of our courses focus on creating a community of writers who read, write, discuss, and revise extensively. Weekly assignments are required, and pedagogically focused for each specific course. For example, our memoir course is specific to memoir writing. Short fiction focuses specifically on fiction up to 20 pages in length. 1000 Words or Less starts with a 50 word story assignment. I am attaching syllabi for each course, along with some examples of weekly agendas for the courses.

The following six courses contain the same basic ingredients in the following requirements:

**6.1 Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.**

**6.2 Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.**

**6.3 Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.**

**6.4 Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.**

**6.5 Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.**

**Below is a brief explanation of why I feel Goal 6 fits the proposals:**

Attached are the six proposals for consideration of Goal 6. All of our required courses focus on specific goals/learning outcomes that are similar in focus, yet build upon each other for our creative writing majors. As writers progress in the program the required courses fine-tune the fundamental elements for successful writing to include our reading audience; creative beginnings; point of view; characterization; setting; dialogue; plot; re-vision. Again, by reviewing syllabi you will see the focus for each course is specific to the genre.

I believe by reviewing the proposals/syllabi you will find these courses fit under Goal 6, and although there is a prerequisite for creative writing majors: WRIT 251: Introduction to Creative Writing, non-majors are encouraged to enroll in any of the following courses to fulfill a Goal 6 requirement: WRIT 352; WRIT 353; WRIT 354; WRIT 356; WRIT 357; WRIT 358; WRIT 481. Creative writing majors may repeat any of the 300-level courses.

Thank you for your time,  
Suzanne Nielsen