# THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number	<u>7914S</u>
Date of Senate Approval	<u>4/03/14</u>
Statement of Faculty Senate	Action.

**APC Document 67** 

Change the requirements for the Concentration in Literature, Concentration in Creative Writing, English with Teacher Licensure and Creative Writing with Teacher Licensure; Change the requirements for the Minor in Literature and the Minor in Creative Writing

**Effective Date: Fall 2014** 

1. Delete: On page 194, under Concentration in Literature:

The concentration in literature offers students an opportunity to study world literature alongside British and American. It concentrates on direct experience with fiction, drama and poetry, as well as on interpreting texts within their historical and cultural contexts. Literature courses demand extensive writing, participation in class discussion, group inquiry and individual research.

The sequence of core courses offers broad coverage of world literatures and provides a solid foundation for majors who plan to continue postgraduate studies in literature. Our focus on achieving a high level of competence in critical thinking, advanced literacy and communication skills further prepares majors for a wide range of careers, including law, medicine, business and other graduate programs.

- I. Required courses in the major—36 hours, including: LIT 240, 324, 334, 335, 491, 492; one course from LIT 325, 326 or 327; one course from LIT 328, 346, 364 or 369; one course from LIT 483, 485, 487 or 489. In addition, students must choose one of the following options:
  - a) 6 additional hours in LIT at the 300-400-level; or
  - b) 3 hours of LIT courses at the 300-400 level, and 3 hours of creative writing. Note: LIT 340 cannot be used to fulfill either of these options.
- II. Required courses outside the major—None.
- III. Other departmental requirements—A two-part demonstration of competency in the discipline, including a written examination and senior thesis. Computer competency is demonstrated in LIT 491. Oral competency is demonstrated in LIT 492.

**Add:** On page 194, in place of deleted entry:

The concentration in Literature contains a combination of core, genre, culture and identity, major author, and elective courses that combine breadth and depth, historical overview and close attention to one author or genre to give students the experiences, abilities, and tools for a lifelong engagement with literature and ideas. The capstone experience, in which students research, write and edit a comprehensive thesis, allows students to demonstrate their skills as readers and writers. All classes develop skills in speaking, listening, imagining and reasoning.

- I. Required courses in the major—36 hours: LIT 240, 324, 334, 335, 488, 494; one course from LIT 325, 326 or 327; one course from LIT 328, 346, 364 or 369; 4 additional hours in LIT at the 300-400 level. Note: LIT 340 cannot be used to fulfill any of the major course requirements.
- II. Required courses outside the major—None.
- III. Other departmental requirements—A two-part demonstration of competency, including a written examination and senior thesis with public presentation. Writing, Information Literacy, and oral competencies are completed in LIT 494.

### 2. Delete: On page 194 under Concentration in Creative Writing:

The concentration in Creative Writing offers students the opportunity and incentive to develop their writing in a workshop setting and to support their writing with a strong background in literary studies. Students accepted into the program will receive individual assistance in under- standing and extending their skills in writing poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and plays. The goal of the program is to foster confident undergraduate writers who work with a sound knowledge of their own literary tradition. Students wanting to complete the Concentration in Creative Writing must follow the application process listed under Declaration of Major in Literature and Language.

- I. Required courses in the major—37 hours, including: LANG 260, 497, 498; LIT 240, 324, 334, 335; one course from LIT 325, 326 or 327; one course from LIT 328, 346, 364 or 369; and 6 additional hours of creative writing (LANG 361 and above), with at least 3 hours at the 400-level.
- II. Required courses outside the major—None.
- III. Other departmental requirements—A two-part demonstration of competency in the discipline, including a written examination and a Senior Creative Writing Project. Computer competency is demonstrated in LANG 497. Oral competency is demonstrated in LANG 498.

#### **Add:** On page 194, in place of deleted entry:

The concentration in Creative Writing offers students the opportunity and incentive to develop their writing in a workshop setting and to support their writing with a strong background in literary studies. The goal of the program is to foster confident undergraduate writers who work with a sound knowledge of their own literary tradition. Students accepted into the program will receive individual assistance in understanding and extending their skills in writing poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and plays. The capstone experience gives students an opportunity to engage in a longer project in which, under the direction of a faculty mentor, they will compose, revise, and polish a substantial piece of original creative writing. Students wanting to complete the Concentration in Creative Writing must follow the application process listed under Declaration of Major in Literature and Language.

- I. Required courses in the major—40 hours: LANG 260, 494; LIT 240, 324, 334, 335; one course from LIT 325, 326 or 327; one course from LIT 328, 346, 364 or 369; and 8 additional hours of creative writing chosen from LANG 361-368 and 461-466, with at least 4 hours at the 400-level.
- II. Required courses outside the major—None.
- III. Other departmental requirements—A two-part demonstration of competencies, including a written examination and a senior Creative Writing Project with public presentation. Writing, Information Literacy, and oral competencies are completed in LANG 494.

#### 3. Delete: On page 195, under English with Teacher Licensure:

- I. Required courses in the major—31 hours, including: LANG 352; LIT 240, 324, 334, 335, 491, 492; one course from LIT 325, 326 or 327; one course from LIT 328, 346, 364 or 369.
- II. Required courses outside the major for 6-9 and 9-12 licensures—6 hours, including: PSYC 319, and 3 additional hours from DRAM 213, NM 101, VMP 205. Students seeking teacher licensure must also complete the required EDUC courses indicated in the Education section of the catalog and see the appropriate Education advisor.
- III. Other departmental requirements—A two-part demonstration of competency in the discipline, including a written examination and senior thesis. Computer competency is demonstrated in LIT 491. Oral competency is demonstrated in LIT 492.

#### **Add:** On page 195, in place of deleted entry:

- I. Required courses in the major—32 hours: LANG 352; LIT 240, 324, 334, 335, 494; one course from LIT 325, 326 or 327; one course from LIT 328, 346, 364 or 369.
- II. Required courses outside the major for 6-9 and 9-12 licensures—6 hours: PSYC 319 and 3 hours from DRAM 213, NM 101, VMP 205. Students seeking teacher licensure must also complete the required EDUC courses indicated in the Education section of the catalog and see the appropriate Education advisor.
- III. Other departmental requirements—A two-part demonstration of competencies, including a written examination and senior thesis with public presentation. Writing, Information Literacy, and oral competencies are completed in LIT 494.

# 4. Delete: On page 195, under Creative Writing with Teacher Licensure:

- I. Required courses in the major—38 hours, including: LANG 260, 352, 497, 498; LIT 240, 324, 334, 335; one course from LIT 325, 326 or 327; and 6 additional hours of creative writing (LANG 361 and above), with at least 3 hours at the 400-level.
- II. Required courses outside the major—3 hours, including PSYC 319. Students seeking teacher licensure must also complete the required EDUC courses indicated in the Education section of the catalog and see the appropriate Education advisor.
- III. Other departmental requirements—A two part demonstration of competency in the discipline, including a written examination and a Senior Creative Writing Project. Computer competency is demonstrated in LANG 497. Oral competency is demonstrated in LANG 498.

#### **Add:** On page 195, in place of deleted entry:

- I. Required courses in the major—40 hours: LANG 260, 352, 494; LIT 240, 324, 334, 335; one course from LIT 325, 326 or 327; and 8 additional hours of creative writing chosen from LANG 361-368 and 461-466), with at least 4 hours at the 400-level.
- II. Required courses outside the major—3 hours: PSYC 319. Students seeking teacher licensure must also complete the required EDUC courses indicated in the Education section of the catalog and see the appropriate Education advisor.
- III. Other departmental requirements—A two-part demonstration of competencies, including a written examination and a Senior Creative Writing Project with public presentation. Writing, Information Literacy, and oral competencies are completed in LANG 494.

#### **5. Delete:** On pages 195-196, under **Minor in Literature:**

18 hours in Literature: LIT 240; 8 hours selected from LIT 324, 334 or 335; 6 additional hours of LIT at the 300-400 level. LIT 340 cannot be used as part of the 6 additional hours. Students must earn a minimum 2.00 grade-point-average on all minor courses taken at UNC Asheville. One-half of the hours required for a minor must be completed at UNC Asheville, to include at least 6 semester hours of 300-400 level courses.

## **Add:** On page 195-196, in place of deleted entry:

20 hours in Literature: LIT 240; 8 hours selected from LIT 324, 334 or 335; 8 additional hours of LIT at the 300-400 level. LIT 340 cannot be used as part of the 8 additional hours. Students must earn a minimum 2.00 grade-point-average on all minor courses taken at UNC Asheville. One-half of the hours required for a minor must be completed at UNC Asheville, to include at least 6 semester hours of 300-400 level courses.

#### **6. Delete:** On page 196, under **Minor in Creative Writing:**

18 hours in Literature and Language: LANG 260 and LIT 240; 4 hours selected from LIT 325, 326 or 327; 6 additional hours selected from LANG 361, 363, 365, 366, 367, 368, 461, 463 or 466. Students wanting to minor in Creative Writing must follow the same application procedures required for majors in Creative Writing, listed under Declaration of Major in Literature and Language. Students must earn a minimum 2.00 grade-point-average on all minor courses taken at UNC Asheville. One-half of the hours required for a minor must be completed at UNC Asheville, to include at least 6 semester hours of 300-400 level courses.

## **Add:** On page 196, in place of deleted entry:

20 hours in Literature and Language: LANG 260 and LIT 240; 4 hours selected from LIT 325, 326 or 327; 8 additional hours selected from LANG 361-368 and 461-466. Students wanting to minor in Creative Writing must follow the same application procedures required for majors in Creative Writing, listed under Declaration of Major in Literature and Language. Students must earn a minimum 2.00 grade-point-average on all minor courses taken at UNC Asheville. One-half of the hours required for a minor must be completed at UNC Asheville, to include at least 6 semester hours of 300-400 level courses.

**Impact:** The reorganization of the Literature and Language curriculum into a more streamlined model (four-hour courses rather than the present combination of three-hour and four-hour courses) will result in a reduction of the number of courses required for the major and only a slight increase in required hours (2-3) in the case of the creative writing concentrations. The department doesn't think this will negatively impact time toward graduation for these students, and believes eliminating one of the required literature courses to reduce the hours would be more problematic for their development as writers.

This new structure will have a positive impact on the department's ability to deliver the curriculum efficiently, with current faculty maximizing the use of classroom space for instruction and enabling those teaching both literature and language to incorporate best practices in lab-based approaches to language acquisition skills and heightened language awareness techniques in larger time blocks that enable students to practice what they are learning in the moment, thus providing real-world scenarios for much of the abstract thinking and modeling being taught. We have given careful consideration to faculty coverage of the classes without the need for additional positions or adjuncts. By combining the two capstone experiences for each concentration, the assessment of competency will no longer be spread over two courses, but will be focused on a single course.

**Rationale**: As per the revised university student learning outcomes, CRTF recommendations, the recent departmental values statement, and the changing demands of the marketplace, the new requirements better reflect the current practices and aims of the Literature and Language department.

The entire curriculum develops and strengthens foundational skills, culminating in the capstone experiences in which core competencies are assessed. These skills-based learning opportunities provide an authentic means of demonstrating mastery that meets state licensure standards, serve as an exemplum of the profession, provide a real-world context with increasingly difficult questions, and also offer an ideal form of assessment by which the department and the school may measure student learning outcomes and align its missions.

The proposed course changes will result in additional group work and writing labs in divergent communication forms, including forums, blogs, multimedia presentations, and other digital media, as well as the incorporation of criticism and theoretical concepts. In the two capstone courses, LIT 494 and LANG 494, students will not only continue to meet the high expectations for writing and research but will also now demonstrate competency in skills that will be addressed in the course content and assessed during a public presentation. The additional credit hour in each course will support the inclusion of more peer review, student critiques, and one-on-one faculty attention, as well as workshops on writing and presentation skills throughout the curriculum. Adding the proposed additional contact hour in each of these courses will allow students to participate more in essential classroom exercises including lectures, assignments, and in-class critique. In addition, material covered will be increased and will be taught in greater depth. The proposed changes will enrich student experiences while supporting a sustainable curriculum.