

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number SD4422S
Date of Senate Approval 3/31/2022

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC Document 39 (ENGL): Add new course: LANG 460, Advanced Creative Writing Workshop;
Add new course: LANG 487, Thematic Approaches to Creative Writing;
Change the title and description for LANG 494**

Effective Date: Fall 2022

1. Add: On page 145, new course, **LANG 460, Advanced Creative Writing Workshop:**

460 Advanced Creative Writing Workshop (4)

Intensive workshop in a genre of writing emphasizing generative work and revision of that work with instructor and peers. Critical and creative engagement with published texts will also be emphasized. Specific topics will vary and may include advanced work within a major genre (e.g., fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction) or subgenre (e.g., horror fiction, the ode, memoir). May be repeated once as content varies. Prerequisites: LANG 260, LIT 240, the completion of two different courses from LANG 361-366, and a declared concentration in creative writing. An IP grade may be awarded at the discretion of the instructor. Fall and Spring.

Impact for LANG 460: This course will be part of a group of three 400-level courses from which students must choose two to fulfill a requirement for the Creative Writing concentration in English. The addition expands student choice by allowing them to pick the 400-level courses that best fit their interests and goals instead of everyone taking the same course.

Student Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will:

1. demonstrate an understanding of the conventions and technical features of the genre of study.
2. demonstrate reading competence and advanced literacy through their interpretation and analysis of a range of texts.
3. demonstrate competency in all stages of the writing process—from rough draft to revision.
4. demonstrate competency in oral communication skills through group discussions and presentations.

The anticipated class size for this 4-credit workshop will be 10-15 students, and the class will meet 3.5 hours/week. Six faculty from the department can teach LANG 460. The course is not part of the UNC Common Numbering System, so no updates will need to be reported.

2. **Add:** On page 145, new course, **LANG 487, Thematic Approaches to Creative Writing:**

487 Thematic Approaches to Creative Writing (4)

Focused study of creative writing about a specific topic or theme involving reading, discussing, and writing creative and critical works. May be repeated once as content varies. Prerequisites: LANG 260, LIT 240, the completion of two different courses from LANG 361-366, and a declared concentration in creative writing, or permission of instructor. An IP grade may be awarded at the discretion of the instructor. Fall and Spring.

Impact for LANG 487: This course will be part of a group of three 400-level courses from which students must choose two to fulfill a requirement for the Creative Writing concentration in English. The addition expands student choice by allowing them to pick the 400-level courses that best fit their interests and goals instead of everyone taking the same course.

Student Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will:

1. demonstrate an understanding of the conventions and technical features of the specific topic of study.
2. demonstrate reading competence and advanced literacy through their interpretation and analysis of a range of texts.
3. demonstrate competency in all stages of the writing process—from rough draft to revision.
4. demonstrate competency in oral communication skills through group discussions and presentations.

The anticipated class size for this 4-credit seminar will be 10-15 students, and the class will meet 3.5 hours/week. Six faculty from the department can teach LANG 487. The course is not part of the UNC Common Numbering System, so no updates will need to be reported.

3. **Delete:** On page 145, the entry for **LANG 494:**

494 Senior Seminar in Creative Writing (4)

Students will work closely with the course instructor, a faculty advisor, and peers to develop a manuscript of poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, or a one-act play; a series of writing assignments supplemental to the creative writing thesis (e.g., a project proposal, critical introduction, interview with a writer, and reflection paper); and a presentation of a portion of the thesis to the public at the end of the semester. Students will also expand their knowledge of the literary marketplace and writing within a larger literary community by attending readings, understanding the processes of submissions to literary journals, and learning about ways of sustaining a literary life. Prerequisites: LIT 240, LANG 260, the completion of three courses from LANG 361-366 (in at least two different genres), a declared concentration in creative writing, or permission of instructor. An IP grade may be awarded at the discretion of the instructor. Fall and Spring.

Add: On page 145, revised **LANG 494, The Creative Writing Professional:**

494 The Creative Writing Professional (4)

Beyond the writing workshop, this course examines the many facets of the creative writing profession. Students will work closely with the course instructor and peers to develop one polished creative work with a critical introduction on the genre and form in which the work is written, in addition to undertaking other professionalization work. Students will expand their knowledge of the literary marketplace; from writer to editor, literary agent to publishing house publicist, and other similarly related career fields. Prerequisites: LANG 260, LIT 240, the completion of two different courses from LANG 361-366, and a declared concentration in creative writing, or permission of instructor. An IP grade may be awarded at the discretion of the instructor. Fall and Spring.

Impact for LANG 494: This course will now be part of a group of three 400-level courses from which students must choose two to fulfill a requirement for the Creative Writing concentration in English. There will be expanded student choice by allowing them to pick the 400-level courses that best fit their interests and goals instead of everyone taking the same course. The major difference with the new iteration of this course is that students won't work with an outside professor on their projects. LANG 494 will continue to satisfy the competency requirement for students subject to the current curriculum.

Student Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will:

1. complete a solid, original work of creative writing
2. revise the work substantively in order to create a polished final version
3. understand and incorporate feedback of their work from instructors and peers
4. understand the many forms of the creative writing life, including publishing, editing, and the importance of building community with other writers.

The anticipated class size for this 4-credit workshop will be 10 students, and the class will meet 3.5 hours/week. Eight faculty from the department can teach LANG 494. The course is not part of the UNC Common Numbering System, so no updates will need to be reported.

Overall Impact: We are proposing to decrease the number of required 300-level workshops from 3 to 2. What was once a third 300-level requirement will become a second 400-level requirement. Students will now take two different courses from LANG 361-366, instead of three courses from two different genres, and instead of one 400-level LANG course requirement (LANG 494), they will be required to take two. LANG 494 will no longer be a strict requirement but an option among three 400-level offerings: 460, 487, and 494. Because the additional required course is being balanced out by the subtraction of a course, this curricular change comes with no net impact on faculty resources.

Rationale: The addition of two new repeatable courses enhances student choice. Instead of requiring all students to take LANG 494, they will now choose which 400-level courses they would like to take. This added flexibility also helps with scheduling and allows our faculty to teach more specialized courses in areas of expertise and interest, e.g., faculty would be able to offer courses in specialized genres and on thematic topics. In addition, 487 offers the exciting possibility of being cross-listed with a 400-level LIT course, e.g., LIT 490, so that a course taught on the same topic could be taken by both creative writing and literature majors.

Creative Writing faculty have long felt dissatisfied with the lack of scaffolding in the curriculum. We once had 300 and 400-level courses organized according to genre, e.g., 363 and 463 for Fiction Writing and Advanced Fiction Writing. This model failed for logistical reasons because it required offering multiple 400-level sections that did not fill. With increased student demand for creative writing and a smaller, more flexible model of 400-level offerings, this new proposal promises much success. Students of various skill levels and instructional backgrounds are currently lumped together in 300-level workshops. Many are not prepared for LANG 494. This proposal seeks to correct this imbalance by creating two equal levels of requirements: students must complete LANG 260 before taking two different courses from LANG 361-366, and they must fulfill this 300-level requirement before taking two courses at the 400-level. This beginner-intermediate-advanced staging should better shepherd them through the major.