The interdisciplinary minor in creative writing is designed to give students an opportunity to develop their writing talents across a number of literary forms and communication contexts. Course offerings in poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and also in stage and screenplay writing give students the opportunity to tailor the minor to suit a variety of artistic goals and professional objectives.

By choosing at least one course from a group involving literary analysis and media criticism, students will gain informed perspectives on current issues affecting readers, viewers, writers, and their creative works that are vital to competence in the field.

The minimum requirement for a minor in creative writing is 18 hours. Two courses may be double-counted between the minor and the major. Students electing this minor may acquire more information from the creative writing director in the Department of English.

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**Course Requirements**

**Select four or five courses from the offerings of two or more academic departments (12-15 credits):**

- ENG 391. Intro to CrWr – Nonfiction
- ENG 392. Intro to CrWr – Poetry
- ENG 393. Intro to CrWr – Fiction
- ENG 493. Advanced Creative Nonfiction Writing
- ENG 494. Advanced Poetry Writing
- ENG 495. Advanced Fiction Writing
- SMAD 250. Scriptwriting (subject to availability)
- SMAD 251. Screenplay Writing
- SMAD 311. Feature Writing
- SMAD 340. Advanced Screenplay Writing
- SMAD 498. Senior Seminar (when topic is appropriate)
- THEA 347. Playwriting (may be taken as ENG 347)
- THEA 440. Seminar in Theatre (when topic is appropriate)
- THEA 447. Advanced Playwriting

**Select one or two courses from the following (3-6 credits):**

- ENG 483. Narrative Form
- ENG 484. Poetic Craft and Creativity
- ENG 496. Advanced Topics in Creative Writing (may be taken more than once if a different course topic)
- SMAD 373. Media Analysis and Criticism
- SMAD 463. Film Adaptations
- THEA 481. Theory and Performance Studies

Two courses may be double-counted for a minor and a major. Note: Students who want to minor in Creative Writing should fill out the Declaration of Minor form and deliver it to the Creative Writing Director’s office mailbox.

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As you rub these words together they spark and whole new combinations happen.

~ Naomi Shihab Nye

Art is the means we have of undoing the damage of haste. It’s what everything else isn’t.

~ Theodore Roethke
Publications Seeking Submissions

At JMU

Gardy Loo
The Fugue
Sister Speak
The Breeze
Curio
SMAD About You

National Literary Journals that Publish Undergraduates

Allegheny Review
Delos
Fusion
Illuminations
Lettered Olive
Spires
Stockpot
Susquehanna Review
Thoreau’s Rooster

Push it. Examine all things intensely and relentlessly. One of the few things I know about writing is this: spend it all, shoot it, play it, lose it, all, right away, every time.

~ Annie Dillard

The minor in Creative Writing at James Madison University
MSC 1801
Harrisonburg, VA 22807

For information on the minor, contact

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http://www.jmu.edu/english/minors.html