Our Faculty

Creative Writing Faculty in the English Department

Amy Catanzano
Assistant Professor of English
POETRY & CROSS-GENRE WRITING

Eric Ekstrand
Assistant Teaching Professor
POETRY

Joanna Ruocco
Assistant Professor of English
FICTION & CROSS-GENRE WRITING

Elisabeth Whitehead
Assistant Teaching Professor
POETRY

Eric Wilson
Thomas H. Pritchard Professor of English
CREATIVE NONFICTION

Contact Us

For more information about the Creative Writing Minor including requirements, how to declare, how to pre-register for classes, course descriptions, co-curricular activities, and ways to be involved with the creative writing community at Wake Forest University, contact the minor’s director, Professor Amy Catanzano, at catanza@wfu.edu

Creative Writing Minor
Department of English
Wake Forest University
C 201 Tribble Hall, Gulley Drive
Winston Salem, NC 27109

college.wfu.edu/english/minors/creative-writing/
The Creative Writing Minor offers students the opportunity to write in multiple literary genres such as fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, playwriting, and screenwriting. Our courses are designed to teach, cultivate, and inspire. Students are provided with an exciting range of coursework, from fundamentals of craft to advanced explorations of forms, techniques, and theory. Creative writing courses are conducted in a unique workshop setting where students receive feedback from one another and the professor on their creative writing projects. Students experiment with writing exercises and respond to a diverse range of contemporary literature. Creative writing courses are taught by our faculty of award-winning fiction writers, poets, and creative nonfiction writers who are committed and innovative teachers as well as active and distinguished writers in their fields. The curriculum in creative writing courses is often linked to the English department’s popular Dillon Johnston Writers Reading Series, which brings visiting poets, fiction writers, and writers of creative nonfiction for literary readings and class visits with students.

Creative writing courses are open to minors and non-minors. Students who declare a Creative Writing Minor receive first preference in enrolling in creative writing courses in the English department during pre-registration periods.

The Creative Writing Minor has many personal and professional benefits and complements all major fields of study. Some students pursue graduate work in creative writing to write a first book and further prepare for careers in teaching, publishing, professional writing, and other fields that emphasize creativity and the literary arts. Faculty mentoring is provided to students who are interested in applying to Master of Fine Arts programs in creative writing.

What are the requirements? The Creative Writing Minor requires five courses (15 hours), including one 300-level literature course offered by the English department. The remaining four courses consist of creative writing workshops offered by the English department (poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction) or cross-listed with the minor (playwriting and screenwriting); at least two of these must be at the 300 level. English majors may earn a Creative Writing Minor by taking four creative writing courses (at least two at the 300 level) exclusive of courses used to complete the major.

Do students need prior experience? No prior experience is needed. All students are welcome.

What are some other benefits of creative writing? In addition to developing the imagination, creative writing can contribute to self and world knowledge. Literature can have a strong impact on social change. Classes are supportive and collaborative communities. Students acquire greater fluency and range in generating and editing material, textual analysis, and working with language as an artistic practice. Try a class, and discover more!