

UC 10816 10S

TO: Lawrence Williams, Chair
Undergraduate Council

FROM: Richard Scamell
Degree Programs Committee: Programs

SUBJECT: UC 10803 10S: Proposal for Establish a Minor in Creative Work in the Honors College

DATE: April 14, 2010

APPROVED APR 21 2010

as amended.

See 4/21/10 UC minutes.

The Committee met on Wednesday, April 14 to consider a proposal to establish a Minor in Creative Work in the Honors College. Participating in the discussion were committee members Betty Barr, Miranda Bennett, Roger Blakeney, Debbie Hermann, Iain Morrison, and Richard Scamell. Jeanette Morales and John Harvey attended the meeting as guests.

Background

The Honors College offers two established minors, Medicine & Society and Phronesis: a Program in Politics and Ethics. The Phronesis minor is recommended for students considering a pre-law emphasis as part of their undergraduate studies. This minor provides students with a foundation in classic texts that address issues in current topics as well as enduring questions of public life, while preparing them to be the leaders and citizens of a self-governing political society. Courses included in the minor come from the areas of political theory, philosophy and classics. The Medicine & Society minor provides an interdisciplinary understanding of health and health care through a combination of coursework, research, fieldwork (including domestic travel and study abroad), student internships, scholarly and public conferences, visiting speakers and an electronic portal with online information and materials. The proposed Creative Work Minor is part of the Center for Creative Work, a program established within the Honors College in 2008. As is the case with the Medicine & Society minor, the Center for Creative Work is interdisciplinary in nature and allows students to connect coursework with art outings, retreats, and other signature events that endeavor to connect creative minds with fascinating books and creative performance.

A Look at the Proposed Creative Work Minor

The proposed Creative Work minor is a multidisciplinary art in context program that integrates creative projects, critical study, and cultural research. The goal of the minor is to provide students with an opportunity to explore creativity across the disciplines designed to bridge art, film, literature, theatre, and music with studies of culture, history, language, business and society. Students in the minor will have access to artistic and creative opportunities both on campus and off campus.

Students must satisfy four requirements to obtain a Minor in Creative Work.

1. Complete 18 semester hours of courses approved for the Creative Work minor including:
 - a. One foundation course – HON 3310: Poetics and Performance
 - b. Twelve additional hours, six of which must be advanced, selected from the approved list for the minor. Courses currently approved for the minor come from the following areas: African American Studies, Anthropology, Architecture, Art History, Chinese, Classics, Communication, Cultural and Urban Studies, Dance, Engineering, English, French, GLBT Studies, German, History, Interdisciplinary Art, Italian, Mexican American Studies, Music, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, Spanish, Technology, Theatre, Women's Studies, and World Cultures and Literatures.
 - c. One 4000 level capstone course selected from HON 4310: Writers and Their Regions, HON 4320: The City Dionysia, IART 4300: Collaboration Among the Arts, or another 4000 level course approved by the Director of the Creative Work Program.
2. A minimum of 12 semester hours must be taken in residence.
3. A cumulative grade point average of 3.25 is course completed for the minor is required.
4. Up the six semester hours of approved electives may be satisfied by internship with a local arts organization or by a senior honors thesis with the approval the Director of the Creative Work Program.

Students not affiliated with the Honors College will be encouraged to consider a minor in Creative Work. It is estimated that a minimum of ten new students will be added into the Creative Work minor each year. At the outset, it is anticipated that these students will come from Honors College courses such as The Human Situation as well as from creative writing and studio arts courses.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that UC 10803 10S be approved. With more than fifty approved courses available to students who wish to minor in Creative Work (many of which have only core courses as a prerequisite), students interested in this minor should have little difficulty creating a group of courses that fit their particular interest.