

CRWR Assessment Plan for 2017

Our goal is to assess the following learning outcome for the CRWR Minor: Familiarity with fundamental concepts, forms, modes, and traditions in literary fiction and/or poetry.

The undergraduate curriculum in CRWR consists of a relatively small number of different courses, many of which are in essence more advanced versions of a course in the same genre at a lower level. For example, CRWR 240, CRWR 340, and CRWR 445 are all, at least in part, fiction workshops, with the expectations and expertise required increasing as students move from level to level. CRWR 230, CRWR 330, and CRWR 435 provide a similar experience for students whose major interest is poetry.

Given the above, we think it best, at least initially, to assess this learning outcome in two classes at the 400 level, one in poetry (CRWR 435) and one in fiction (CRWR 445). We plan to proceed as follows:

Designated CRWR faculty in both poetry and fiction will collect the final creative portfolios submitted in the Advanced Creative Writing Workshops of each genre (CRWR 445 and CRWR 435). They will evaluate and score the portfolios in terms of the Program's Learning Outcome #4, which states that students should demonstrate a "Familiarity with fundamental concepts, forms, modes, and traditions in literary fiction and/or poetry." In addition to the numerical scores, the faculty participating will also provide to CAS and the Program faculty as a whole a written report conveying their observations and recommendations, with those observations and recommendations in turn functioning as the basis for changes, if warranted, to the learning outcomes and curriculum for the CRWR minor.