**Senior Portfolio: English Creative Writing Concentration**

The student will compile a portfolio consisting of four components: (A) a personal statement; (B) a research-based essay; (C) material from a primary genre; and (D) material from a secondary genre.

(A) The personal statement should describe, in detail (five or more double-spaced pages), the student’s reading habits and writing skills upon entering the Creative Writing program; what the student has learned during his or her time in the Creative Writing program; and the student’s current goals as a writer. Additionally, the student should specifically address the revision process for his or her primary and secondary genre selections.

(B) The research-based essay should be the student’s final paper assignment from one of his or her Literature for the Creative Writer courses: ENGL 3610 or ENGL 3615.

(C) For the primary genre*, the student should submit one of the following:

1. three personal essays or short stories (5,000 to 15,000 total words);
2. an outline and three chapters of a novel or memoir (5,000 to 15,000 total words);
3. twelve poems;
4. one full-length play or three one-act plays.

(D) For the secondary** genre, the student should submit one of the following:

1. one personal essay or short story (1,500 to 5,000 total words);
2. an outline and one chapter of a novel or memoir (1,500 to 5,000 total words);
3. four poems;
4. a one-act play.

*The Creative Writing program recognizes these major literary genres: creative non-fiction, drama, fiction, and poetry.

**For English Exit Portfolio purposes, the Creative Writing program does not distinguish between genres and subgenres. Thus, the student’s primary and secondary genre selections may not be of the same major literary genre. Additionally, all creative work must reflect revisions of writing produced in or for the student’s Creative Writing program coursework.

In the semester prior to the student’s anticipated graduation date, the student should ask, in writing, two of his or her Creative Writing professors to serve on his or her portfolio review committee.

No later than the end of the first week of the semester in which the student intends to graduate, the student should submit a hard copy and an electronic copy of his or her portfolio
to the EFL Office. A staff member of the EFL Office will then distribute copies of the portfolio to the student’s choice of two Creative Writing professors.

By midterm of the semester, the two professors will return the portfolio during an informal meeting with the student in which they will discuss topics such as craftsmanship, esthetic issues, and career possibilities. The professors may withhold approval of the portfolio until the student satisfactorily revises some or all of the material.

A portfolio review committee has the right to require extensive revisions prior to a portfolio being allowed off-campus. If the student refuses compliance, they are allowing themselves to fail because the portfolio will not be sent to an off-campus reader. This will require a rewrite the following semester in order to pass.

After both professors have officially, in writing, approved the portfolio as adequate to pass with at least a grade of C, the portfolio will be sent to an off-campus evaluator approved by the Chair of the Department of English and Foreign Languages.

If the off-campus evaluator approves, the portfolio will be deemed acceptable.

If the off-campus evaluator disapproves, the Chairperson will select a second off-campus evaluator. If the second off-campus evaluator approves, the portfolio will be deemed acceptable.

If the second off-campus evaluator disapproves, the portfolio will be deemed unacceptable and the student must produce a new portfolio for submission and begin the process again.

11/20/2014

Anna Caroline Harris