1 April 2008

To: Prof. Thomas Patterson, Chair
   CHASS Executive Committee

Via: Prof. Stephen Cullenberg, Dean
      College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

From: Charles Whitney, Chair
      Department of Creative Writing

RE: Lifting the Moratorium on, and Proposed Changes to Journalism Minor

Attached is a proposed change that would in effect restore the minor in Journalism to Creative Writing. The brief justification therein focuses on curricular changes from the "old" minor in journalism.

To expand on a justification for the minor: The Department regularly fills all its basic journalism (CRWT 165, offered twice yearly) classes in the first hour of undergraduate enrollment, and department staff receive inquiries each week both from current UCR students and from potential applicants wanting to know about if and when the minor will be restored. We believe, in brief, there is ample demand for restoration of the minor.

The Department will have adequate staffing for the minor as of the Fall 2008 Quarter: The dean authorized the Department this academic year to search for an assistant professor whose teaching responsibilities would be in journalism. We will be interviewing four exceptional applicants at the end of this month. This faculty member would join the Chair in offering the bulk of our journalism classes, perhaps occasionally supplemented by a contract lecturer to offer classes on the books but for which faculty have no special expertise (e.g., CRWT 151: Sports Journalism). The Chair has a professional and academic background in journalism of more than two dozen years, having taught journalism courses at Stanford, Ohio State, Illinois and Texas before coming to Riverside; I will continue to teach two to three journalism classes per year, more when I complete my term as department chair.

Attachment (1)

Approved by CHASS EC: 30 January 08

Approved by CEP: February 6, 2008
To be adopted:

Proposed Change to the Journalism Minor

Present

The minor requirements for the Department of Creative Writing are as follows:

Lower-division requirements (9 Units)
1. ART 003
2. CRWT 043

Upper-division requirements (16 units)
1. Eight (8) units from:
   a) CRWT 165
   b) CRWT 175
2. Eight (8) units from:
   a) CRWT-176 (E-Z)
   b) One (1) upper-division media-related course among the following:
      a) AHS 186/FVC 186, HISA 118, POSC 128, or
      b) Other media-related course with departmental approval
   c) CRWT-195H or CRWT-198 I

Proposed

Lower-division requirements (9 Units)
1. No Change
2. CRWT 057C

Upper-division requirements (20 units)
1. Eight (8) units from:
   a) No Change
   b) No Change
2. Eight (8) units from:
   a) CRWT 174
   b) One (1) course either from an approved list of media-related upper-division courses, or, with the approval of the academic advisor for journalism minors, an upper-division course relevant to an area of journalism specialization.
3. Either CRWT 195: Senior Thesis [4], or CRWT 198 I: Internship [4]. Students electing a thesis will complete a series of news features or an investigative article or series requiring significant endeavor in reporting and writing and demonstrating an understanding of sound journalistic principles. CRWT 195 is open to seniors only. Students completing CRWT 198 I must complete 4 units of internship with a journalism organization.

Justification: Journalism minor has been on hiatus since 1994; within CRWT, 057C has replaced 043 in the interim, and HIS 118 no longer exists. CRWT 174 (Issues in Journalism) is a new course, taught for the first time in Winter 2007, and specifically designed to be incorporated into a restored journalism minor. Other courses listed in Present 2B (2) will be included in Proposed 2B(2); other Proposed upper-division requirements are more focused on journalistic practice than requirements in Present minor.

Effective: Fall 2008
Approved by: Creative Writing Department – 10/16/2007
Approved by: Executive Committee, CHA&SS – 01/30/2008
Approved by: Committee on Educational Policy – 2/6/2008