Millersville University

Notice of Intent (NOI) for New Credentials

(Majors, Concentrations, Minors, Certificates, MDST Tracks, etc.)

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<td>Name of Degree</td>
<td>Science Writing</td>
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<td>Delivery Method</td>
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<td>NOI Submission Date</td>
<td>Click here to enter a date.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact Name(s)</td>
<td>Caleb Corkery; Justin Mando</td>
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<tr>
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| SUMMARY            |                                                                 |

Provide a brief summary that includes program description, scope, and purpose/need.

To complement the university’s new MDST BA in Science Writing, the English Department sees an opportunity to offer a minor centered on writing about issues in science. In developing the MDST BA in Science Writing, the following science departments suggested that a minor in science writing would suit the needs of many of their students: Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Geography.

The Minor in Science Writing will challenge students to accurately translate the often arcane and complex news of scientific developments into lay language. In addition, students must also attempt to put scientific discoveries and controversies into historical, personal, political, economic, and social context. This program will focus on the rhetorical skills needed to advocate for positions on scientific issues, as well as the adaptations needed to reach varied audiences.

Program Outcomes

- Demonstrate skills in writing about issues in science using print, digital, and social media.
- Apply journalistic values and ethical standards in traditional news media and in emerging electronic venues for science writers.
- Analyze and write about science in a larger social context involving environmental, technological, health, and/or political issues.
Proposed Plan for Science Writing Minor

Required Core (6 credits):
ENGL 319 Science Writing
ENGL 466 Special Topics in Science Writing

Electives (9 credits):
BIOL 204: Human Biology (G2, W)
BIOL 207: Human Sexuality (G2, D, W)
BIOL 256: Nutrition (G2, W)
BIOL 340: Perspectives in Environmental Awareness (P)
CHEM 372: History of Chem & Socy (D, P)
ENGL 250 Press and Society (G1, W)
ENGL 313 Fundamentals of Journalism
ENGL 317 Editing and Publication
ENGL 318 Web Writing & Content Management
ESCI 350: History of Meteorology (D, P)
ESCI 385: Global Climate Change: Science & Policy (P)
ESCI 245 Environmental Meteorology (G2, L)
ESCI 202 Earth in Space (G2)
GEOG 101: The Global Environment (G3)
GEOG 202: Resources and the Environment (G3)
GEOG 307: U.S. Enviro Policy (G3)
GEOG 336: Climate and Change (G3)
GEOG 407: Global Enviro Plcy & Negotiation (G3, W)
ITEC 301: 3 s.h. Technology and Its Impact on Humans (P)
ITEC 302: Futurology (P)
ITEC 304: Sustainability (P)
PHIL 314: Philosophy of Science (G1, W)
PHIL 345: Humanity and Environment (P)
PHYS 302: Physics & Evol of West Civ (P)

Capstone (3 credits):
ENGL 300 Internship
ENGL 472 Writing Workshop
STRATEGIC PLANNING

Provide a brief description of how the proposed program supports department, college, and university goals and strategies.

Department Strategic Plan Goals
The Minor in Science Writing addresses the English Department’s goal of “Tailoring our learning experiences to individual potential and interests of students.” This minor will give students new ways to explore their interests in writing, which is something important to our department.

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Goals
This new minor addresses our College’s goals “To provide intellectually enriched programs in the humanities, visual and performing arts, social sciences and selected professional and pre-professional areas that provide students with a strong foundation for their future.” This minor will enrich the college by bringing content from science into writing in the humanities, preparing students for professional and pre-professional work communicating about science issues.

University Strategic Plan
This minor will also contribute to the University’s Strategic Plan Goal A, “To engage learners to contribute positively to contemporary and future workplaces and communities.” The Science Writing Minor will offer students new ways to engage with their learning across disciplines that can be productive for bringing understanding about science into workplaces and communities.

RESOURCE PLANNING
Provide a brief projection of resources necessary to support the program. If none, please explain.
The resources for this program are already in place. English Department has hired a specialist in science writing, Dr. Justin Mando. Dr. Mando has created a new course in science writing and new topics courses on the subject, too. His specialization can cover the course work for the minor. As the number of students increase, Mando will train and assist other writing studies faculty to teach the introductory science writing course.