

CGS December 2012 Meeting
Innovations in Graduate Education at Master's Focused Institutions

Case Study: Low Residency Program
Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing

Low Residency: All courses offered online except for Writing Residency Program.
Online courses vary between synchronous (mainly audio) and asynchronous formats.

Target Audience: Students primarily interested in Professional Development / Personal Enrichment (not marketed as pathway to faculty positions)

Two Residency Programs Offered per Year:

4 Residency Credits required for the program

“Local” Residency” Offered during Fall/Spring Interim
Held at local hotel
Counts as 1 residency credit

International Residency: Offered During Summer
Locations: Mexico, Edinburgh, Lisbon.
Counts as 2 residency credits

The Numbers:

Program started in 2006
Enrollment has grown steadily from ~5 to ~60 students
Currently 40 FT/20 PT
20 new enrollees Fall 2012
Originally ~90% of students from KY
Currently ~ 60% of students from KY
40%-50% of students take at least 1 international residency

Strengths:

Highly regarded literary magazine published by the program
Excellent Faculty

Challenges:

Faculty Workload
Tuition Structure