

Stonecoast MFA in Creative Writing

SAMPLE STUDY PLAN*

**Use this sample to help you create your own study plan in consultation with your mentor. You may reuse this wording as necessary to help you create your own plan.*

a. Overall semester goals:

My genre of concentration is short fiction. My goals are:

1. To use my mentor's comments to help develop a clearer sense of my strengths and weaknesses as a fiction writer, and to use this awareness to become more effective at revising and improving my work.
2. To become more familiar with classic texts in my genre and to learn at least two techniques from the past that I can apply to my own work.
3. To explore new ways of presenting point of view by reading in other genres.
4. To vary my sentence structure and expand my thematic range, particularly through writing about characters who are different from myself.

b. Written Work to be completed:

I will write short stories, including at least five new stories, as well as doing revisions on these stories and on other recent work.

My goal is to bring several stories to the point of sending out for publication or as close to this level as possible.

I will also produce, as annotations, 6 to 8 short critical essays, approximately 3 to 5 pages, double-spaced, in length, and 2 stylistic imitations of the same length.

c. Schedule

I will write for two hours a day, in addition to time spent on reading and on critical analysis of short fiction.

I will send five packages to my advisor, each during the second week of each month, beginning in August, except that the final package will be sent on December 1.

Each package will contain two to three stories (new work and revisions), as well as one to two short critical essays.