

CREATIVE WRITING, BA

Contact

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The Creative Writing Major in the English Department is designed for students who have an intense interest in developing their skills as writers and readers of creative nonfiction, fiction, and poetry. Students need to read widely and critically in order to write well and will be well served by a study of contemporary writing practices and the influences, precedents, and roots of literature. Students will be expected to read contemporary and historical works from a range of aesthetic credos that will provide a context to their development as artists. Students will begin to think as writers do and to understand the aesthetic and moral choices writers confront as they write. In addition, students will have ample opportunity for frequent and extensive writing and rewriting as they read, critique, and support each other's work under the guidance of the distinguished faculty of the MFA in Creative Writing, a nationally ranked program.

Students who wish to major in Creative Writing should consult the Department of English Director of Undergraduate Studies to be assigned an appropriate advisor, who helps plan the course of study.

Some students majoring in Creative Writing may wish to apply for a dual enrollment with another school or college within the University, such as the School of Information Studies, College of Visual and Performing Arts, the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, or the School of Education. For more information, see the web site at english.syr.edu.

Student Learning Outcomes Include

1. Students will show the ability to read closely and analyze texts across historical periods and in various genres.
2. Students will be able to recognize and express the aesthetic qualities of literature and a knowledge of literary forms.
3. Students will be able to recognize and produce good writing and explain what literary aspects make it good.
4. Students will demonstrate a knowledge of critical approaches and methods of interpretation.
5. Students will improve their own work through self-conscious and analytical processes.
6. They will be able to discuss peer work and other written texts in a thoughtful and constructive manner.
7. Students will exhibit an awareness of how these skills are necessary for employment and graduate study in a wide range of fields.

Major Requirements

To qualify for a B.A. degree in Creative Writing, students complete a total of 30 credits of coursework. Students must attain a grade of C- or better in order to count a course toward their major credits. These credits include:

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
Select 3 credit hours from one of the following 100-level courses:		3
ENG 105	Introduction to Creative Writing	
ENG 107	Living Writers	

ENG 121	Introduction to Shakespeare	
ENG 122	Introduction to the Novel	
ENG 151	Interpretation of Poetry	
ENG 153	Interpretation of Fiction	
ENG 155	Interpretation of Nonfiction	
Select one workshop from the following choices:		3
ENG 215	Introductory Poetry Workshop	
ENG 216	Introductory Literary Nonfiction Workshop	
ENG 217	Introductory Fiction Workshop	
ENG 242	Reading and Interpretation (Required)	3
Remaining 21 credits		
The remaining 21 credits are in courses numbered above 299 and must include:		21
ENG 300	Selected Topics (Creative Writing (3 credits)) or ENG 475 Topics in Experiential Learning (Creative Writing)	
One upper division ENG course numbered 300 and above from outside the area of creative writing (3 credits)		
One upper division ENG critical course focused on texts written before 1900 from outside the area of creative writing (3 credits)		
Two upper division "Reading and Writing" courses in different genres: (6 credits)		
ENG 301	Practicum in Reading and Writing Prose	
ENG 303	Practicum in Reading and Writing Fiction	
ENG 304	Practicum in Reading and Writing Poetry	
Prerequisite for the Advanced Workshop:		
ENG 215	Introductory Poetry Workshop	
ENG 216	Introductory Literary Nonfiction Workshop	
ENG 217	Introductory Fiction Workshop	
Two advanced workshops. Each workshop must be in a different genre and have a different numerical designation: (6 credits) (does not have to correspond to the genre of the introductory course).		
ENG 401	Advanced Writing Workshop: Poetry	
ENG 402	Advanced Workshop: Literary Nonfiction	
ENG 403	Advanced Writing Workshop: Fiction	
Total Credits		30

Note: WRT 422 Studies in Creative Nonfiction may be substituted for ENG 402 Advanced Workshop: Literary Nonfiction.

Before 1900

Courses fulfilling the "before 1900" requirement have titles that end in the phrase "Before 1900."

Code	Title	Credits
ENG 311	Literary Periods before 1900	3
ENG 313	Race & Literary Periods Before 1900	3
ENG 321	Authors before 1900	3
ENG 341	Theorizing Forms and Genres before 1900	3
ENG 353	Race, Nation, and Empire before 1900	3
ENG 361	Reading Gender and Sexuality before 1900	3
ENG 363	Race, Empire, and Sexuality Before 1900	3
ENG 407	Advanced Critical Writing, Topics Before 1900	3
ENG 411	Forms and Genres before 1900	3
ENG 413	Race, Forms & Genres Before 1900	3
ENG 421	Cultural Production and Reception before 1900	3

ENG 423	Race, Cultural Production and Reception Before 1900	3
ENG 441	Theorizing History and Culture before 1900	3
ENG 453	Reading Race and Ethnicity Before 1900	3

College of Arts and Sciences Requirements

For all Arts and Sciences|Maxwell students, successful completion of a bachelor's degree in this major requires a minimum of 120 credits, 96 of which must be Arts and Sciences|Maxwell credits, completion of the Liberal Arts Core (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#text>) requirements, and the requirements for this major (30 credits) that are listed above.

Dual Enrollments:

Students dually enrolled in **Newhouse*** and Arts and Sciences|Maxwell will complete a minimum of 122 credits, with at least 90 credits in Arts and Sciences|Maxwell coursework and an Arts and Sciences|Maxwell major.

*Students dually enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences|Maxwell as first year students must complete the Liberal Arts Core (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#text>). Students who transfer to the dual program after their first year as singly enrolled students in the Newhouse School will satisfy general requirements for the dual degree program by completing the Newhouse Core Requirements.

Undergraduate University Requirements

The following requirements and experiences apply to all Syracuse University Undergraduate matriculated degree programs.

- IDEA Course Requirement (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/undergraduate/idea-course-requirement/>)
- First Year Seminar (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/undergraduate/courses/fys/>)