

ENGLISH - CREATIVE WRITING

All writing is creative — fiction or fact, prose or poetry, with sight or sound — and words matter. Stories make us human, and studying English with an emphasis in Creative Writing is a way of knowing our stories. Students explore literatures, genres, and cultures through the ages and use that knowledge to enhance their writing.

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) GENERAL OVERVIEW

Three introductory courses:

- English Literature to 1800
- English Literature since 1800
- American Literature

Seven upper-division courses:

- Two introductory Creative Writing workshops in poetry and prose
- One 400-level Creative Writing workshop in poetry or prose
- One English course in literature written before 1900
- One English course in literature written after 1900
- One elective course
- Senior Seminar in Literary Studies

Examples of upper-division elective courses include:

- Literature of California
- Science Fiction
- Comics and Graphic Novels
- Visual and Popular Culture
- Shakespeare
- The Modern Novel

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Workshops: Students work together in small interactive creative writing workshops to hone skills in poetry, fiction, and non-fiction. Advanced workshops are often cross-departmental, featuring topics such as popular song, opera, theatre, fine arts, cinema, and health.

Maymester: Spend part of your summer in Paris studying poetry, or on a reservation studying Native American culture, or reading regional literature while backpacking through the Maymester program.

Honors Program: Departmental Honors are awarded at graduation to seniors who complete a creative writing project combined with a critical thesis. This competitive program attracts our very best students.

Prizes and Research: Students can compete for cash awards for excellence in literary studies, poetry, and fiction, as well as financial support for independent literary research beyond the classroom.