

M.F.A. IN CREATIVE WRITING

<http://www.as.miami.edu/english/creativewriting/>

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing

The University of Miami's M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing offers a fully funded, two-year course of study in the writing of poetry, fiction, or cross-genre literature while providing substantial pedagogical training in the teaching of creative writing and composition. The program features a broad multilingual focus in a vibrant, multicultural city unlike any other. Enrollment is kept deliberately small to maximize student-teacher interaction, and faculty at U.M. are supportive of the linguistic and cultural differences that writers bring to their art. Students in good standing may apply to receive a third year of funding to focus on professional development and publication as they continue to teach undergraduate writing courses.

Full Funding

The James Michener Fellowships and Teaching Assistantships support all our graduate students. Awards include a full tuition waiver, health and travel benefits, and an annual stipend. M.F.A. candidates teach one section of Introduction to Creative Writing (ENG 209) per semester during their second year in the program.

The Third Year

Two students are selected each year to proceed into an optional third year during which they continue teaching undergraduate creative writing courses while receiving faculty mentorship toward professional development in literary magazine editing and/or public outreach and marketing.

Graduates of the M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing have gone on to publish award-winning novels, poetry collections, and creative nonfiction. They have been awarded Stegner Fellowships and other highly competitive residencies; have been accepted into Ph.D. programs; and have found employment in teaching, publishing, and other allied fields.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Workshop Requirement		
Students must take 12 credits of workshop in the genre they were admitted to.		12
ENG 601	Creative Writing: Fiction III	
ENG 602	Creative Writing: Poetry II	
Form Requirement		
Students must take 12 credits of forms in the genre they were admitted to.		12
ENG 604	Form in Poetry	
ENG 605	Form in Fiction	
Thesis Requirement		
ENG 810	Master's Thesis	6
Required Electives ²		6
Total Credit Hours		36

¹ **Third Year Option:**

ENG 820 is required for third year students. Students make take up to 6 credits in electives during their third year.

² Required electives must be literature or forms courses, or other graduate courses at the university.

Sample Plan of Study

Year One		
First Semester		Credit Hours
ENG 601 or 602	Creative Writing: Fiction III or Creative Writing: Poetry II	3
ENG 604 or 605	Form in Poetry or Form in Fiction	3
Elective		3
ENG 691	TAs Only	0
Credit Hours		9

Second Semester		
ENG 601 or 602	Creative Writing: Fiction III or Creative Writing: Poetry II	3
ENG 604 or 605	Form in Poetry or Form in Fiction	3
Elective		3
ENG 209	Creative Writing (TAs Only)	
Credit Hours		9
Year Two		
First Semester		
ENG 601 or 602	Creative Writing: Fiction III or Creative Writing: Poetry II	3
ENG 604 or 605	Form in Poetry or Form in Fiction	3
ENG 810	Master's Thesis	3
ENG 105	TAs Only	
Credit Hours		9
Second Semester		
ENG 601 or 602	Creative Writing: Fiction III or Creative Writing: Poetry II	3
ENG 604 or 605	Form in Poetry or Form in Fiction	3
ENG 810	Master's Thesis	3
ENG 209	Creative Writing (TAs Only)	
Credit Hours		9
Total Credit Hours		36

Mission

The M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing trains students in best practices for writing publishable novels, short story collections, books of poetry, and individual works that will contribute to the global literary canon. Students learn critical and craft-based strategies for establishing their unique voice and style within their chosen literary genre and for achieving their artistic ambitions. In addition to mentoring our students in the writing and revision of their creative theses, we also offer substantial training for careers in university teaching, publishing, and arts administration, both, inside and outside of the academy.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate a thorough understanding of how to write publishable novels, collections of short stories and books of poetry in order to contribute to the global literary cannon.
- Students will master a range of critical and craft-based strategies in order to attain their creative and artistic vision and demonstrating the skills needed to establish their own expertise, voice and style within the literary genre of their choice by submitting a final portfolio and by participating in the Closing Conversation.
- Students will cultivate the necessary skills for careers in the production of contemporary literatures and arts administration.