

Creative Writing

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Requirements

Certificate in Creative Writing

Students may specialize in fiction or creative nonfiction. Each student will take five 3-credit, advanced-level (300 or higher) courses, including three courses devoted to mastering the craft of writing in the chosen specialty genre, one course primarily in the reading and analysis of the literature in that genre, and one course in a second genre.

The student's final course in the program will be taken for 4 credits rather than the usual 3, and it will include a 1-credit meta-commentary assignment. This assignment requires students to step back from the particular course and describe (in 1500 words) what they have learned about the differences between and similarities among the genres investigated and how these have affected their choice of genre. Students should look at the strategies they have chosen in their writing and explain why they chose them for a particular purpose. The goals of this assignment are for students to demonstrate the skills that they have learned during the course of their certificate studies as they think about the genres they have examined and to show how these skills govern their approach to creative writing.

Students with little previous experience in creative writing are encouraged to begin with a 200-level writing course or workshop as a foundation for the more advanced courses that will count toward the certificate.

Sample Courses

Code	Title	Units
EComp 316	Poetry Writing	3
EComp 317	Fiction Writing: The Moral of the Story: Writing Fiction about Ethics, Philosophy, and Morality	3
EComp 318	Fiction Seminar (Prerequisite: EComp 317 or one published work)	3
EComp 3151	Nonfiction: Reading and Writing the Memoir	3
EComp 3153	Creative Nonfiction: Writing Ourselves, Writing the World	3
EComp 323	The Art of the Personal Essay	3