

Creative Writing (BA)

This program is offered by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences/English Department and is only available at the St. Louis main campus.

Program Description

The student with a major in creative writing takes courses in fiction, poetry, drama, creative nonfiction, and translation, as well as selected literature courses. We also offer a minor in creative writing.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

- Read as a writer, understanding and analyzing a range of literary strategies, such as language, voice, and form.
- Produce accomplished creative work that demonstrates a command of literary strategies in fiction, poetry, drama, and other literary genres.

Degree Requirements

For information on the general requirements for a degree, see Baccalaureate Degree Requirements under the Academic Policies and Information section of this catalog.

- 36 required credit hours
- 3 international language requirement credit hours
- Applicable University Global Citizenship Program hours
- Electives

English courses completed with a grade lower than C- do not count toward fulfilling the specific course requirements of the major.

At least 21 credit hours within the major must be completed at Webster University.

International Language Requirement

- A minimum of three hours in a non-native language is required in addition to the requirements for the major. Courses used toward the international language requirement may also be used to fulfill general education requirements or a major/minor in a foreign language.
- Transfer students who have completed their 3 credits at an institution of higher education are considered to have fulfilled the requirement, as are students who have scored a "3" or higher on an Advanced Placement exam in a non-native language.
- For students whose native language is not English, a passing grade on the TOEFL will count as their foreign language requirement. Students who are from bilingual families but have no evidence of academic study of the second language on a transcript will need to take one course.

Curriculum

The 36 credit hours required for the creative writing major include

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- Complete at least six credit hours of a foreign language with a grade of B or higher in each semester, or test out of that requirement.
- Further explore cultures other than British or U.S. in one of four ways: complete at least three additional credit hours of foreign language with a grade of C or higher; complete an approved course in literature in translation; complete an approved course in world literature; or participate in study abroad.
- Complete three hours of the following: an additional Topics course (if content differs); an additional literature course at the 3000-4000 level; three hours of ENGL 4400.
- Complete at least one credit hour of ENGL 4620 Practicum, prior to the student's final semester.
- Through consultation with an English Department advisor and successful completion of the Petition to Write the Honors Thesis, secure the approval of the department to proceed with the Honors Thesis. This step should be completed by the Monday before the mid-semester break prior to the student's graduation semester.
- Complete ENGL 4900 Thesis Workshop. Guidelines for writing the thesis can be found on the department's website. Students who successfully complete ENGL 4900 will earn one credit hour, for a total of 41 credit hours.
- Receive Honors on the thesis by writing a thesis that me02o semester.