

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

Required courses:

- English Literature to 1800
- English Literature since 1800
- American Literature
- Lower-division: Literary Art/Sophomore Seminar
- Upper-division: Senior Seminar in Literary Studies

- Intro to Poetry (craft course, creative writing workshop)
- 400-level workshop, according to prose or poetry emphasis (craft course, creative writing workshop)
- Modern/Contemporary Literature, according to prose or poetry emphasis (craft course)
- Upper-division english elective

One course from each of the following categories:

- Early Literatures
- Later Literatures
- Interpretive Lens (either Race/Gender/Sexuality or Genre/Media Studies focus)
- Intro to Prose (craft course, creative writing workshop)

Examples of English courses include:

- Literature of California
- Contemporary Poetry
- Comics and Graphic Novels
- Introduction to Colonialism/Postcolonialism
- Science Fiction
- Visual and Popular Culture
- Women in English Literature before 1800
- Caribbean Literature

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 thesis on their own independent literary research. 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.

For additional information, please consult the USC Catalogue.

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