

MAJOR IN ENGLISH, CREATIVE WRITING CONCENTRATION



Do you enjoy writing stories, poetry, or creative nonfiction? The Creative Writing concentration gives students the opportunity to strengthen their creative writing skills. Beginning, intermediate, and advanced courses centered on craft infuse students' writing and reading skills with imagination. Intermediate and advanced courses are primarily workshop classes in which students read and discuss one another's work, offering experience in problem-solving, collaborative discovery, and the development of an individual voice. Students in the Creative Writing concentration also take a variety of English and literature courses that prepare them to be writers by instructing them in literary traditions and styles. An internship program for all English majors offers Creative Writing students positions that may lead to employment in fields ranging from writing, publishing, communications, and education to the social sciences, computer science, healthcare, and industry.

Learning Objectives

Creative Writing students will complete the learning objectives set for all English majors, plus one that is specific to this concentration:

1. Critically analyze varied texts, individually and in community, informed by the methods employed in English studies.
2. Examine how texts are created and interact with local and global systems.

3. Craft written work informed by the genres and methods in English studies and adapted to audience and context.
4. Inquire into and demonstrate intellectual growth in the disciplines of English.

Plus:

5. Create original creative works of poetry, fiction, and/or creative nonfiction that demonstrate an understanding of the traditions, structures, styles, and techniques of the relevant genre.

Where can Creative Writing take you?

The Creative Writing concentration is a gateway to a wide range of careers where clear language, compelling communication, and proficient analytical thinking are key. Creative writers can be found in law, technology, education, the arts, healthcare, environmental sciences, and of course publishing. Here are just some of the paths recent graduates have taken:

- Graduate School in English and/or Creative Writing
- K–12 English Language Arts Teacher
- Curriculum and Materials Developer
- Bookseller
- Law School
- Content Strategist
- Grant Writer
- Foreign Service
- Forest Service Ranger
- Managing Editor
- Published Author

Requirements Effective Fall 2026

For graduation, an English major must attain a minimum grade point average of 2.000 in [all Composition \(CO\)](#) and English ([E](#)) [courses](#). Students may enroll in either the standalone major or (at most) one of the concentrations under the Major in English.

Freshman

		AUCC	Credits
CO 150	College Composition (GT-CO2)	1A	3
E 150	English Studies Symposium		3
E 210	Beginning Creative Writing	1C	3
SPCM 200	Public Speaking		3
Select one course from the following:			
E 200	Inquiry-Based Teaching and Communicating	3B	
E 202	English Language Use in Society	1C	
E 204	Creative Writing as Transformative Practice	3B	

E 206	Language for Activist Rhetoric and Writing	3B	
E 237	Introduction to Science Fiction (GT-AH2)	3B	
Select one course from the following:			3
E 236	Short Fiction	3B	
E 238	Contemporary Global Fiction (GT-AH2)	1C	
E 240	Introduction to Poetry		
E 242	Shakespeare's Afterlives (GT-AH2)	3B	
E 245	World Drama (GT-AH2)	1C	
E 270	Introduction to American Literature (GT-AH2)	3B	
E 276	British Literature--Medieval Period to 1800 (GT-AH2)	3B	
E 277	British Literature--After 1800 (GT-AH2)	3B	
1B	(https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc)	1B	3
Biological and Physical Sciences (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)			4
Electives			5
Total Credits			30

Sophomore

Select one course not previously taken from the following:			3
E 200	Inquiry-Based Teaching and Communicating	3B	
E 202	English Language Use in Society	1C	
E 204	Creative Writing as Transformative Practice	3B	
E 206	Language for Activist Rhetoric and Writing	3B	
E 237	Introduction to Science Fiction (GT-AH2)	3B	
E ***	English Elective		3
Arts and Humanities (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-and-humanities)			3
Biological and Physical Sciences (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)			3
Historical Perspectives (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives)			3
Social and Behavioral Sciences (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#social-behavioral-sciences)			3
Electives			12
Total Credits			30

Junior

Select one course from the following:			3
CO 300	Writing Arguments (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 301A	Writing in the Disciplines: Arts and Humanities (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 301B	Writing in the Disciplines: Sciences (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 301C	Writing in the Disciplines: Social Sciences (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 301D	Writing in the Disciplines: Education (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 302	Writing in Digital Environments (GT-CO3)	2	
Select one course from the following pre-reqs for Capstones:			3
E 301	Framing Texts and Critical Theory in Equity	4A,4B	
E 305	Principles of Writing and Rhetoric	4A,4B	
E 310	Researching and Writing Literary Criticism	4A,4B	
E 320	Introduction to the Study of Language	4A,4B	
E 341	Literary Criticism and Theory	4A,4B	
Select one course from the following:			3
E 311A	Intermediate Creative Writing: Fiction		
E 311B	Intermediate Creative Writing: Poetry		

E 311C	Intermediate Creative Writing: Nonfiction	
Upper-Division English/Composition Electives ¹		6
Second field ²		3
Electives		12

Total Credits	30
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Senior

Select one course from the following (Must match subtopic of E 311A, E 311B, or E 311C in Junior year):	3
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E 412A	Creative Writing Workshop: Fiction
E 412B	Creative Writing Workshop: Poetry
E 412C	Creative Writing Workshop: Nonfiction

Select one course from the following:	3
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E 465	Topics in Literature and Language	4C
E 466	Integrated English Studies Capstone	4C

Upper-Division English/Composition Electives ¹	12
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Second field ²	9
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Elective ³	3
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Total Credits	30
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Program Total Credits:	120
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¹ Select Upper-Division English/Composition electives in consultation with advisor.

² The department requires majors to complete a second field. This may be met by completing the second semester of the second year of a foreign language or by completing 12 credits of upper division courses in a coherent field of study outside English.

³ Select enough elective credits to bring the program total to 120 credits, of which at least 42 must be upper-division (300- to 400-level).

Major Completion Map

Distinctive Requirements for Degree Program:

For graduation, an English major must attain a minimum grade point average of 2.000 in all Composition (CO) and English (E) courses.

Freshman**Semester 1**

		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
CO 150	College Composition (GT-CO2)	X		1A	3
E 150	English Studies Symposium	X			3
E 210	Beginning Creative Writing		X	1C	3
Choose one class from the following:		X			3
E 200	Inquiry-Based Teaching and Communicating			3B	
E 202	English Language Use in Society			1C	
E 204	Creative Writing as Transformative Practice			3B	
E 206	Language for Activist Rhetoric and Writing			3B	
E 237	Introduction to Science Fiction (GT-AH2)			3B	
1B (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc)			X	1B	3

Total Credits	15
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Semester 2

		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
SPCM 200	Public Speaking	X			3
Select one course from the following:		X			3
E 236	Short Fiction			3B	
E 238	Contemporary Global Fiction (GT-AH2)			1C	
E 240	Introduction to Poetry				
E 242	Shakespeare's Afterlives (GT-AH2)			3B	
E 245	World Drama (GT-AH2)			1C	
E 270	Introduction to American Literature (GT-AH2)			3B	
E 276	British Literature—Medieval Period to 1800 (GT-AH2)			3B	

E 277	British Literature--After 1800 (GT-AH2)			3B	
Biological and Physical Sciences (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)			X	3A	4
Electives			X		5
AUCC 1B and CO 150 must be completed by the end of Semester 2.		X			
Total Credits					15
Sophomore					
Semester 3		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Select one course from the following:		X			3
E 200	Inquiry-Based Teaching and Communicating			3B	
E 202	English Language Use in Society			1C	
E 204	Creative Writing as Transformative Practice			3B	
E 206	Language for Activist Rhetoric and Writing			3B	
E 237	Introduction to Science Fiction (GT-AH2)			3B	
E*** English Elective			X		3
Arts and Humanities (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-and-humanities)			X	3B	3
Biological and Physical Sciences (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)		X		3A	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#social-behavioral-sciences)			X	3C	3
Total Credits					15
Semester 4		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Historical Perspectives (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives)			X	3D	3
Electives			X		12
AUCC 3A (Biological and Physical Sciences), AUCC 3B (Arts and Humanities), AUCC 3C (Social and Behavioral Sciences), and E 210 must be completed by the end of Semester 4.		X			
Total Credits					15
Junior					
Semester 5		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Select one course from the following pre-reqs for Capstones:		X			3
E 301	Framing Texts and Critical Theory in Equity			4A,4B	
E 305	Principles of Writing and Rhetoric			4A,4B	
E 310	Researching and Writing Literary Criticism			4A,4B	
E 320	Introduction to the Study of Language			4A,4B	
E 341	Literary Criticism and Theory			4A,4B	
Select one course from the following:		X			3
E 311A	Intermediate Creative Writing: Fiction				
E 311B	Intermediate Creative Writing: Poetry				
E 311C	Intermediate Creative Writing: Nonfiction				
Upper-Division English/Composition Electives		X			3
Electives			X		6
Total Credits					15
Semester 6		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Select one course from the following:		X			3
CO 300	Writing Arguments (GT-CO3)			2	
CO 301A	Writing in the Disciplines: Arts and Humanities (GT-CO3)			2	
CO 301B	Writing in the Disciplines: Sciences (GT-CO3)			2	
CO 301C	Writing in the Disciplines: Social Sciences (GT-CO3)			2	
CO 301D	Writing in the Disciplines: Education (GT-CO3)			2	
CO 302	Writing in Digital Environments (GT-CO3)			2	

Upper-Division English/Composition Elective	X			3
Second Field Course	X			3
Electives		X		6

Total Credits				15
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Senior

Semester 7	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Select one course from the following:	X			3
E 465 Topics in Literature and Language			4C	
E 466 Integrated English Studies Capstone			4C	
Upper-Division English/Composition Elective	X			6
Second Field Courses	X			6

Total Credits				15
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Semester 8	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Select one course from the following:	X			3
E 412A Creative Writing Workshop: Fiction				
E 412B Creative Writing Workshop: Poetry				
E 412C Creative Writing Workshop: Nonfiction				
Upper-Division English/Composition Elective	X			6
Second Field Course	X			3
Elective	X			3
The benchmark courses for the 8th semester are the remaining courses in the entire program of study.	X			

Total Credits				15
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Program Total Credits:				120
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