

**CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM BFA HANDBOOK FOR**

**CURRENT CREATIVE WRITING MAJORS**

(REVISED January 28, 2014)

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**INTRODUCTION**

The Creative Writing Program at UBC is unique within North America, offering workshops in the following ten genres: fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction, writing for children, translation, stage play, radio, song lyric and libretto, screenwriting and writing for graphic forms. The approximately 50 undergraduate Majors and 15 faculty in the program make up a lively literary community. Students can become involved with a variety of reading series, publications, and performances, including our annual theatre festival, Brave New Play Rites. Students also can participate in literary events both on-campus and in the diverse literary milieu of Vancouver.

The Creative Writing Program offers undergraduate courses that lead to the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree. This two-year studio program is taken in years three and four of an undergraduate degree. In this Program, apprentice writers are offered instruction by faculty who work in a variety of literary and dramatic forms.

Students who have completed all the degree requirements for a Double Major in Creative Writing and another subject falling within the BA (Bachelor of Arts) program may choose to graduate with either a BFA or a BA.

**MAJORING IN CREATIVE WRITING**

Majors must complete 48 upper level credits, 36 of which are in Creative Writing courses numbered 400 or above in workshop courses in four different genres. 200 level Creative Writing courses do not count as a genre or towards the 36 credits required to fulfill a Major in Creative Writing. The only exception is majors who take CRWR 206 under a 400 level course number (TBA) which will count as a genre and credits toward the degree. 300 level CRWR courses also do not count towards the major (beginning Fall 2013).

Majors may not enroll in more than 18 credits per year in Creative Writing workshops due to course demands on the student. However, lecture and elective courses, when offered, are permitted in addition to the 18 credits in workshops but do not count towards the 36 credits required to fulfill a Major in Creative Writing.

Majors may not take more than one class in each form per semester. For example, it is not permitted to take two poetry classes in one term.

Creative Writing classes are in high demand. Space is limited. Therefore, we cannot guarantee that all students will get seats in the classes and genres of their choice.

Genres taken in third year may be taken again in fourth year as long as space permits and the credit maximum for the specific course has not been exceeded.

# BFA DEGREE

Creative Writing offers a BFA degree. Current UBC students who have been accepted as Majors and are currently registered for a BA degree need to complete a “Change of Faculty” form through the Student Service Centre to switch their registration from a BA to a BFA.

# DOUBLE MAJOR

Students who double major may choose to graduate with either a BA or a BFA degree, if the other department offers a BA degree. Students who are not double majoring with another department must graduate with a BFA degree. Students who wish to double major should contact the other department for information on how to apply, degree requirements, and deadlines.

# HONOURS MAJOR

**(Under review. No new applicants will be accepted)**

# COURSE REGISTRATION

Registration for 400-level courses is blocked for students who are not Creative Writing Majors or grads in our Program. Students who have been accepted as Majors self-register for Creative Writing workshops and elective courses through their Student Services account.

Students will be notified of their registration date on their Student Services account. Students will be able to register themselves as soon as their registration date becomes available. Follow the instructions on the Student Services website <http://www.students.ubc.ca/>Set up an account and pay the registration deposit before attempting registration.

# COURSE PLANNING

1. Check the Course Descriptions on our website.
2. Check the UBC course calendar to see if there are any time conflicts with other courses or with your work schedule.
3. Pay the registration deposit in advance of your registration date.
4. Classes fill quickly so plan which courses are your first choices as well as your second choices. Note: 4th year Majors are able to register themselves for courses before 3rd year students. Please do not register in more courses than you intend to take.
5. Register for courses as soon as your registration date becomes available.
6. Keep checking the registration web page if you do not get into the course you wanted. If a Major drops a course it will open a seat for the next Major who registers.

# DROPPING A COURSE

Majors can drop a course through their Student Services account. Remember to check the drop deadline in advance. A student who drops a course after the deadline passes receives a “W” on their academic record.

If a student has any doubts whether to stay in a course or drop it, he/she should consult with the instructor or with the Undergraduate Advisor.

If a student decides to drop a course after attending a class the student should let the instructor know.

# MAINTAINING STANDING

Students must maintain an average of 80% in Creative Writing Courses to maintain their standing as BFA majors. Students who fall below this average will have to reapply to the program.

**CREATIVE WRITING COURSES**

Six-credit courses are conducted from September through April. Three-credit courses may be offered in either term 1 or term 2. **Not every course will be offered every year**. Check the course schedule for up to date listings. Courses are usually not offered during the summer with the exception of some 200 level courses.

**Courses Open to Non-BFA Majors (Open Enrolment):**

**Any 200 level course or approved transferred equivalent\* constitutes a prerequisite for a Major.**

**\*See B.C. Transfer guide** [**www.bctransferguide.ca**](http://www.bctransferguide.ca/) **Non B.C. students should consult the**

**Undergraduate Chair. 200 and 300 level courses do not count towards the 36 credits for the BFA degree.**

**CRWR 200 (3) Introduction to Creative Writing**

Covers multiple genres from fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, drama for the stage and screen, new media, graphic forms and lyric forms.

**CRWR 203 (3) Introduction to Writing for Children and Young Adults CRWR 205 (3) Introduction to Writing Creative Nonfiction**

**CRWR 206 (3) Introduction to the Screenplay**

**CRWR 208 (3) Introduction to Writing for Graphic Forms**

**CRWR 209 (3) Introduction to Writing Fiction**

**CRWR 211 (3) Introduction to Writing for Lyric Forms**

**CRWR 213 (3) Introduction to Writing for the New Media CRWR 217 (3) Introduction to Writing for Stage Play and Radio**

Techniques of creating, developing and writing the one-act play and short-form radio drama.

**CRWR 230 (3) Introduction to Writing for Comedic Forms**

**CRWR 301 (3) Intermediate Writing Poetry**

**CRWR 303 (3) Intermediate Writing for Children and Young Adults**

**CRWR 305 (3) Intermediate Writing Creative Nonfiction CRWR 306 (3) Intermediate Writing for the Screen**

**CRWR 307 (3) Intermediate Writing for the Stage and Radio CRWR 308 (3) Intermediate Writing for Graphic Forms**

**CRWR 309 (3) Intermediate Writing Fiction**

**CRWR 311 (3) Intermediate Writing for Lyric Forms**

**None of the above courses assure admission to the Major program; applicants are accepted based on the quality of their manuscripts.**

**COURSES FOR THIRD AND FOURTH YEAR BFA MAJORS:**

**Not every course will be offered every year. Check the course schedule on our website for up to date listings.**

**CRWR 401: Writing Poetry I**

**CRWR 403: Writing for Children and Young Adults I**

**CRWR 404: Writing for Radio I**

**CRWR 405: Writing Creative Nonfiction I**

**CRWR 406: Writing for the Screen I**

**CRWR 407: Writing of Drama for the Stage I**

**CRWR 408: Writing for Graphic Forms I CRWR 409: Writing of Fiction I**

**CRWR 411: Writing for Lyric Forms I**

**CRWR 415: Workshop in Literary Translation I**

**CRWR 416: Writing for Television I**

**CRWR 430 (3 credits) Preparation for a Career in Writing**

*Elective course. Does not count toward credit for the degree.*

**CRWR 451: Writing Poetry II**

**CRWR 453: Writing for Children and Young Adults II CRWR 455: Writing Creative Nonfiction II**

**CRWR 456: Writing for the Screen II CRWR 457: Writing Drama for the Stage II**

**CRWR 459: Writing of Fiction II**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Creative Writing**

**Undergraduate Advisor:** TBA

**Acting Co-Chairs,**

**Creative Writing:** Annabel Lyon & Linda Svendsen

**Administrator:** TBA

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