Creative Writing (CW)

Courses

CW 100 Intro to Creative Writing  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/100)
Acquaint students with the technical choices a writer makes in creating a story or a poem. Mondays are given to lectures on specific elements of poetry and fiction. Wednesdays are dedicated to readings by faculty and visiting writers. Fridays allow students the opportunity to work in small group discussion sections applying the week’s techniques and skills to a close reading of stories and poems. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Lit Arts

CW 104 Introductory Narrative Writing  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/104)
Practice in the writing of narrative prose, with primary emphasis on short fiction. Prerequisite: Completion of campus Composition I general education requirement.

CW 106 Introductory Poetry Writing  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/106)
Practice in the writing of poetry; experimentation with a number of fixed forms and free verse, but emphasis mainly on the student’s freedom to develop a personal style. Prerequisite: Completion of campus Composition I general education requirement.

CW 200 Reading for Writers  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/200)
Emphasizes the craft of short stories and poems through the study of formal elements central to the production of creative writing (e.g., plot, character, setting, point of view in short fiction and rhythm, meter, line break, imagery, simile, metaphor, formal patterns in poetry). Prerequisite: CW 104 or CW 106. For majors only.

CW 202 Topics in Creative Writing  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/202)
Independent writing projects and examination of literature as the cultural basis of the student’s specialized fields. May be repeated as topics vary.

CW 204 Intermediate Narrative Writing  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/204)
Practice in the writing of fiction, with emphasis on the short story. Prerequisite: CW 104 or equivalent.

CW 206 Intermediate Poetry Writing  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/206)
Builds upon the workshop format of CW 106, with an emphasis on prosody and poetic technique. Students will deepen their sense of craft by putting into practice their study and understanding of a variety of poetic forms (e.g., syllabic poetry, dramatic monologue, sonnet, bound/free verse) and technical concerns (e.g., voice, tone, line, line break, image). The workshop component of the course typically includes 8-12 completed poems and their revisions. Prerequisite: CW 106.

CW 208 Creative Nonfiction Writing  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/208)
Types of nonfiction prose, including the personal essay, memoir, literary journalism, and historical writing. Prerequisite: RHET 233 or CW 243, or equivalent, or consent of instructor.

CW 243 Inter Expository Writing  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/243)
Practice in expository types, with emphasis on style and critical analysis. Restricted to Creative Writing majors. Credit is not given for CW 243 and either RHET 243 or RHET 233. Prerequisite: Completion of campus Composition I general education requirement. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Advanced Composition

CW 404 Advanced Narrative Writing  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/404)
Continued practice in the writing of fiction, with emphasis on the longer story. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 undergraduate hours or 8 graduate hours. Prerequisite: CW 204 or equivalent.

CW 406 Advanced Poetry Writing  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/406)
Practice of the writing of poetry aided by intensive study of examples. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 undergraduate hours or 8 graduate hours. Prerequisite: CW 206 or equivalent.

CW 455 Creative Writing Tutorial  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/455)
Personal direction in a writing project: fiction (novel or short stories), poetry or creative nonfiction. Frequency of conference to be determined by the type of project. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 undergraduate hours or 8 graduate hours. Prerequisite: CW 208, CW 404 or CW 406, and consent of the Director of Creative Writing.

CW 460 Intro to Literary Editing  credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/460)
PRACTICUM IN WHICH STUDENTS LEARN ALL THE STAGES OF DEVELOPING AND EDITING A LITERARY PUBLICATION. STUDENTS WILL SOLICIT, READ, AND SELECT POEMS AND STORIES FOR AN ONLINE SUPPLEMENT TO THE NINTH LETTER LITERARY JOURNAL. AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER, THE SUPPLEMENT WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE NINTH LETTER WEBSITE (WWW.NINTHLETTER.COM). STUDENTS WILL GAIN EXPERIENCE IN PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, COPYEDITING, AND MARKETING. 3 UNDERGRADUATE HOURS. 4 GRADUATE HOURS. MAY BE REPEATED TO A MAXIMUM OF 6 UNDERGRADUATE HOURS OR 8 GRADUATE HOURS. PREREQUISITE: CW 208, CW 404 OR CW 406, AND CONSENT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CREATIVE WRITING.

CW 463 Adv Topics in Creative Writing  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/463)
Advanced topics course in Creative Writing. Students study selected topic through a workshop model, pursuing advanced development in one or more approaches to writing in a specialized field or genre. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 undergraduate hours or 8 graduate hours. Prerequisite: CW 104 or CW 106.

CW 500 The Craft of Fiction  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/500)
Examination of the creative process of fiction from the perspectives of aesthetics and techniques, illustrated from the work of selected authors. Prerequisite: Graduate standing in English.

CW 502 Problems in Poetry Writing  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/502)
Examination of the creative process of poetry from the perspective of aesthetics and techniques, illustrated from the work of selected authors. Prerequisite: Graduate standing in English.
CW 504 Writing Workshop in Fiction  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/504)
Directed individual projects, with group discussion in fiction. May be repeated to a maximum of 16 hours. Prerequisite: Admission to the MFA program, or graduate standing in English with advanced submission of creative work and consent of instructor.

CW 506 Writing Workshop in Poetry  credit: 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/506)
Directed individual projects, with group discussion in poetry. May be repeated to a maximum of 16 hours. Prerequisite: Admission to the MFA program, or graduate standing in English with advanced submission of creative work and consent of instructor.

CW 560 Literary Publishing & Promotion  credit: 0 to 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/560)
A working practicum designed to teach graduate students the basics of literary journal publishing and to introduce them to career and entrepreneurial opportunities in other types of literary arts organizations. Students will attend weekly editorial meetings, complete weekly reading assignments, and will work 2 hours per week in the 'Ninth Letter' office, reading manuscript submissions and completing various clerical tasks for the journal. Approved for both letter and S/U grading. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Prerequisite: MFA candidate standing.

CW 563 Special Topics  credit: 0 to 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/563)
Approved for both letter and S/U grading. May be repeated up to a maximum of 12 hours. Prerequisite: MFA candidate standing or consent of instructor.

CW 591 Independent Study  credit: 0 to 4 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/591)
Approved for both letter and S/U grading. May be repeated up to a maximum of 12 hours. Prerequisite: MFA candidate standing.

CW 595 Final Project  credit: 0 to 12 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/CW/595)
Guidance in writing final projects. Approved for S/U grading only. May be repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 12 hours. Prerequisite: MFA candidate standing.