CREATIVE WRITING (CW)

Creative Writing (CW) courses focus on various aspects of creative writing, including narrative prose, poetry, and nonfiction. Each course offers a unique perspective on the craft of writing, with a focus on developing individual styles and techniques.

**Courses**

**CW 100 Intro to Creative Writing**  
credit: 3 Hours.  
Acquaints 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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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., syllabics, 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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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. No graduate credit. May be repeated in separate semesters to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: CW 104 or CW 106.

**CW 463 Adv Topics in Creative Writing**  
credit: 3 or 4 Hours.  
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, if topics vary. Prerequisite: Junior standing required.

**CW 500 The Craft of Fiction**  
credit: 4 Hours.  
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.  
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.

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 08/2018
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.