Courses

CW 100  Intro to Creative Writing  credit: 3 Hours. Acquaint students with the technical choices a writer makes in creating a story or a poem. 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  Fiction Workshop I  credit: 3 Hours. An introductory workshop in fiction, with a primary emphasis on short stories. Prerequisite: Completion of campus Composition I general education requirement.

CW 106  Poetry Workshop I  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 199  Undergraduate Open Seminar  credit: 1 to 5 Hours. Topics course that varies each semester and by section. The topics offered each semester will be listed in the Class Schedule. Approved for Letter and S/U grading. May be repeated.

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  Fiction Workshop II  credit: 3 Hours. An intermediate workshop in fiction, with a primary emphasis on short stories. Prerequisite: CW 104 or equivalent.

CW 206  Poetry Workshop II  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., 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 Workshop  credit: 3 Hours. Types of nonfiction prose, including the personal essay, memoir, literary journalism, and historical writing.

CW 243  The Craft Essay. Creative Reading, Reflection, and Revision  credit: 3 Hours. In this writing- and reading-intensive composition class, students will look at how creative writers—fiction writers, poets, and essayists—write about creative writing outside of the standard literary analysis model. Realizing that there are other methods of discussing, analyzing, and considering literature is a major goal of this class. As a complement to the production of creative work, students will focus on how we analyze, consider, and place that work within the greater context of creative writing. Prerequisite: Completion of campus Composition I general education requirement. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Advanced Composition

CW 404  Fiction Workshop III  credit: 3 or 4 Hours. An advanced workshop in fiction, with a primary emphasis on short stories. 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  Poetry Workshop III  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.

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 04/2022
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. 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. (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, if topics vary. Prerequisite: Junior standing required.

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 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 or consent of instructor.

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.