

CREATIVE WRITING AND PUBLISHING (MFA)

The MFA in Creative Writing and Publishing is designed for students who want to work on long-form projects such as a novel, a memoir, or a poetry or story collection during their time at DePaul. Study across genres and develop and revise your work under the mentorship of acclaimed authors and poets. Flexible admissions and genre guidelines let students design their perfect MFA, culminating in a required master's thesis of a publishable quality.

While you find your voice as a writer, hone your skills and build your resume in either publishing or teaching through courses in Copyediting, Book Publicity, Book Design, Teaching Creative Writing, or Teaching English. Gain hands-on instruction in editorial work and desktop publishing with Big Shoulders Books, *Poetry East*, *Crook & Folly*, or *Slag Glass City*, including technical instruction in InDesign and the *Chicago Manual of Style*.

Because the MFA is a terminal degree qualifying graduates to teach at most colleges or universities, students interested in teaching should plan to take pedagogy courses to prepare for working in the classroom. Professional internships in DePaul classrooms offer excellent experience and preparation within the MFA program.

Additional graduate certificates are available in

- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/programs/teaching-english-speakers-other-languages-certificate/>)
- Teaching English in Two-Year Colleges (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/programs/teaching-english-two-year-colleges-certificate/>)

Courses are offered weekday evenings on the Lincoln Park Campus and online. Check with the program director or www.english-exlibris.com for online course offerings. The program may be completed in as little as two years. Part-time options are available for working students.

MFA Admission Requirements

Students with a bachelor's degree in any field will be considered simultaneously for admission to the MA and MFA. MA in Writing and Publishing students can be considered for admission to the MFA if they have at least one remaining quarter of graduate study. Courses taken in the MA in Writing and Publishing can count toward the MFA as long as the student has not already graduated.

For admission, a student must also present the following:

- A strong record of previous academic achievement.
- Relevant course work in creative writing or experience with creative writing gained on the job or through endeavors such as publishing original work and/or participating in a writers' circle or group.

Program Requirements	Quarter Hours
Degree Requirements	48
Total hours required	48

Students will be able to:

- Create original works of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction that demonstrate appropriate skills of narrative and lyric writing, such as the use of description, exposition, and research.
- Offer constructive criticism on works in progress that illustrates understanding of forms (the prose poem, the short story cycle, the lyric essay, etc.), and/or elements of voice, structure, and idea development.
- Apply the knowledge, vocabulary, and tools of writing craft in professional contexts, such as teaching, presenting conference papers, producing creative and multimedia content, and editing.
- Develop and sustain a substantial excerpt of a book-length work of literature that demonstrates the skills of narrative and/or lyric writing.

MFA Course Requirements

Writing Workshop

- All workshops, except for ENG 480, ENG 487, ENG 490, and ENG 497, are reserved for graduate students in the Department of English

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
Choose six courses from the following list:		24
ENG 480	INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING	
ENG 484	WRITING WORKSHOP TOPICS	
ENG 487	TRAVEL WRITING	
ENG 490	WRITING FOR MAGAZINES	
ENG 492	WRITING FICTION	
ENG 493	WRITING POETRY	
ENG 494	NOVELS I	
ENG 495	NOVELS II	
ENG 497	WRITING THE LITERATURE OF FACT	

Literature

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
Choose one course from the following list:		4
ENG 411	CHAUCER	
ENG 412	STUDIES IN ARTHURIAN LITERATURE	
ENG 419	TOPICS IN MEDIEVAL LITERATURE	
ENG 426	THE ESSAY: HISTORY, THEORY, PRACTICE	
ENG 427	MILTON	
ENG 428	STUDIES IN SHAKESPEARE	
ENG 429	TOPICS IN RENAISSANCE LITERATURE	
ENG 431	STUDIES IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY NOVEL	
ENG 434	STUDIES IN RESTORATION AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURY AUTHORS	
ENG 439	TOPICS IN RESTORATION AND EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY LITERATURE	
ENG 441	STUDIES IN ENGLISH ROMANTIC PROSE	
ENG 442	STUDIES IN ENGLISH ROMANTIC POETRY	
ENG 445	STUDIES IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH FICTION	
ENG 446	NINETEENTH-CENTURY IRISH LITERATURE	

ENG 449	TOPICS IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE
ENG 451	STUDIES IN THE MODERN BRITISH NOVEL
ENG 452	STUDIES IN MODERN BRITISH POETRY
ENG 453	STUDIES IN MODERN DRAMA
ENG 455	MODERN IRISH LITERATURE
ENG 456	CONTEMPORARY IRISH LITERATURE
ENG 459	TOPICS IN MODERN BRITISH LITERATURE
ENG 464	STUDIES IN AMERICAN AUTHORS
ENG 465	STUDIES IN THE MODERN AMERICAN NOVEL
ENG 466	STUDIES IN MODERN AMERICAN POETRY
ENG 467	STUDIES IN AMERICAN DRAMA
ENG 469	TOPICS IN AMERICAN LITERATURE
ENG 472	LITERARY THEORY
ENG 475	TOPICS IN LITERATURE
ENG 476	TOPICS IN GENRE AND FORM

Electives in Language, Literature, Publishing and Teaching

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
Choose two courses from the following list:		8
ENG 400	STRUCTURE OF MODERN ENGLISH	
ENG 401	HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE	
ENG 407	GRAMMAR AND STYLE FOR WRITERS	
ENG 408	STYLISTICS	
ENG 426	THE ESSAY: HISTORY, THEORY, PRACTICE	
ENG 473	TEACHING CREATIVE WRITING	
ENG 474	TEACHING LITERATURE	
ENG 476	TOPICS IN GENRE AND FORM	
ENG 477	TOPICS IN PUBLISHING	
ENG 478	TOPICS IN TEACHING	
ENG 496	TOPICS IN EDITING	

Any courses in literature if not used to satisfy the Literature category requirement, above

Courses from other programs may be substituted only with approval of program director.

Open Electives

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
Choose two courses from the following list:		8
ENG 500	INDEPENDENT STUDY	
ENG 509	INTERNSHIP	

Any graduate-level courses in writing, literature, criticism, publishing, and teaching offered by the English department and not used to satisfy other requirements, above

Up to two graduate level courses offered by the Department of Writing, Rhetoric and Discourse.

Courses from other programs may be substituted only with approval of program director.

Note: No more than two courses from outside of the English Department may count toward Open Electives.

Thesis Requirement

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
Near the end of your second year, you will be required to register for ENG 501 THESIS RESEARCH. You will need to choose a thesis director and a second reader for your final thesis.		
ENG 501	THESIS RESEARCH	4

Online Degree Option

The MFA/MA program is committed to offering at least 3 online and/or remote-enabled courses every regular academic quarter. Yearly offerings will include 4-5 workshops, 2 publishing courses, 1-2 literature courses, and a variety of electives. Online summer session and December intercession courses can also count toward your degree. Check with the program director or www.english-exlibris.com (<http://www.english-exlibris.com/>) for online course offerings.