



University of
Pittsburgh
Greensburg

Creative and Professional Writing

undergraduate program

Creative and Professional Writing

39 credits
Bachelor of Arts

The Creative and Professional Writing major includes concentrations in poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and journalism. Students focus on a primary genre, but are encouraged to take courses in all genres.

A wide variety of readings, topics, and writing-workshop based courses are essential to the major and provide the link between critical reading and good writing. This broad approach encourages creative writing and critical thinking while preparing students for the job market. A bi-annual literary magazine and daily online and bi-weekly print newspaper, as well as off-campus internships in journalism and publishing, offer students practical, hands-on experience. An annual Writers Festival and a monthly reading series provide a vibrant writing community and the opportunity to learn from professional, nationally-acclaimed poets and writers.

Employment:

- * Digital and Social Media
- * Literary and Commercial Publishing
- * Editor
- * Journalist
- * Literary Agent/Publicist
- * Medical Humanities
- * Public Relations/Marketing/Advertising
- * Subsidiary rights
- * Creative writing
- * Government agencies
- * Labor unions
- * Law firms
- * Nonprofit & religious organizations
- * Special event promotion
- * Customer service
- * Print production
- * Fundraising/Community Relations
- * Technical Writer
- * Museums



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Fall 2025



Introductory Courses 2 courses - 6 credits

Complete two out of three of the following introductory courses:

ENGWRT 0410	Introduction to Creative Writing (cross-genre course)
ENGWRT 0411	Introduction to Creative Nonfiction
ENGWRT 0550	Fundamentals of News Reporting

(Note: Students must complete ENGCOMP 0020 before enrolling in a writing course.)

Writing Courses 6 courses - 18 credits

After completing the introductory courses, students are encouraged to declare a genre (poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, or journalism) and complete all courses in that genre.

(Note: Introductory courses may not be used to satisfy this requirement.)

ENGWRT 0560	SCREENWRITING AND NARRATIVE
ENGWRT 1010	INTERMEDIATE FICTION
ENGWRT 1012	DIGITAL STORYTELLING 1
ENGWRT 1022	DIGITAL STORYTELLING 2
ENGWRT 1095	TOPICS IN FICTION**
ENGWRT 1210	POETRY WORKSHOP *
ENGWRT 1290	READINGS IN CONTEMPORARY POETRY *
ENGWRT 1293	TOPICS IN POETRY**
ENGWRT 1310	ADVANCED JOURNALISM/FEATURE WRITING *
ENGWRT 1311	DIGITAL MEDIA/ CREATING MULTIMEDIA STORIES THAT MATTER
ENGWRT 1331	MAGAZINE 1 *
ENGWRT 1380	NEWS PRACTICUM: THE INSIDER***
ENGWRT 1381	NEWS PRACTICUM: THE INSIDER***
ENGWRT 1390	READINGS IN CONTEMPORARY NON-FICTION *
ENGWRT 1410	TOPICS IN NON-FICTION: MEMOIR *
ENGWRT 1415	TOPICS IN NONFICTION WRITING (Travel Writing; Food Writing; Nature Writing)
ENGWRT 1430	LITERARY AND ONLINE PUBLISHING
ENGWRT 1500	WRITING AND HEALING ARTS: WRITING CHILDHOOD
ENGWRT 1520	WRITING ABOUT AND THROUGH TRAUMA
ENGWRT 1530	WRITING AND THE BODY
ENGWRT 1550	WRITING AS PLAY
ENGWRT 1560	WRITING IN THE WORLD
ENGWRT 1650	PLAYWRITING 1
ENGWRT 1900	INTERNSHIP: WRITING * (strongly encouraged for majors with journalism emphasis - 12 or more credits in journalism or creative nonfiction)

*This course has a prerequisite

**Topics courses in the Creative & Professional Writing Program are repeatable. Topics, texts, and instruction modes change often.

***News Practicum/The Insider is a repeatable course. The course can be taken for 3 credits initially, and for 2 credits afterwards to allow journalism students to receive Creative & Professional Writing credits for their ongoing practicum experiences.

Additional Requirements 4 courses - 12 credits

All students must complete four courses of English Literature electives as part of the major requirements.

Creative and Professional Writing Capstone 1 course - 3 credits

This rigorous, senior-seminar course is taken during the student's senior year. Students complete a manuscript in their chosen genres and do a public presentation of their work as part of the course requirements.

Note: After earning 60 credits, Creative and Professional Writing majors must enroll in ENGCOMP 1150 - Grammar and Copy Editing to satisfy their final composition requirement.