



Pitt

Kenneth P. Dietrich
School of Arts and Sciences

English Writing Major and Creative Writing Minor

www.English.Pitt.edu

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Pitt's creative writing program is one of the oldest and largest in the United States. We offer concentrations in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. The maximum number of students in a writing class is 22. Our faculty includes widely published poets, fiction writers, non-fiction writers, senior reporters and editors. Graduates of the writing program include editors at major daily newspapers and publishing houses, winners of the Pulitzer and other major prizes, and the authors of many published books.

Required courses for the English Writing major

The English writing major requires the completion of 33 credits: 21 credits in English writing courses, and 12 credits in English literature courses. Majors must declare one of the three concentrations or tracks – Fiction, Poetry, or Nonfiction – though in most cases, the student will take other writing courses as well.

Prerequisites

The Seminar in Composition requirement must be completed prior to enrollment in any ENGWRT course. A Seminar in Composition course can be selected from the following list.

- ENGCOMP 0200 Seminar in Composition
- ENGCOMP 0203 Seminar in Composition: Women's Studies
- ENGCOMP 0205 Seminar in Composition: Film
- ENGCOMP 0207 Seminar in Composition: Education
- ENGCOMP 0208 Seminar in Composition: Service Learning
- ENGCOMP 0210 Seminar in Composition: Writing and Film
- ENGCOMP 0212 Seminar in Composition: Diversity
- FP 0003 / FP 0006 First-Year Seminar

Tracks

Fiction track

- _____ ENGWRT 0520 Introduction to Fiction Writing
- _____ ENGWRT 1010 Intermediate Fiction
- _____ ENGWRT 1094 Readings in Contemporary Fiction
- _____ ENGWRT 1710 Senior Seminar in Fiction
- _____ ENGWRT _____ (elective)
- _____ ENGWRT _____ (elective)
- _____ ENGWRT _____ (elective)

Poetry track

- _____ ENGWRT 0530 Introduction to Poetry Writing
- _____ ENGWRT 1210 Poetry Workshop
- _____ ENGWRT 1290 Readings in Contemporary Poetry
- _____ ENGWRT 1730 Senior Seminar in Poetry
- _____ ENGWRT _____ (elective)
- _____ ENGWRT _____ (elective)
- _____ ENGWRT _____ (elective)

Writing electives can include ENGWRT 0400 Introduction to Creative Writing and up to two ENGCOMP courses at the 0400-level or higher.

Nonfiction track

- _____ ENGWRT 0610 Introduction to Journalism and Nonfiction
- _____ ENGWRT 1330 Intermediate Nonfiction: Scene and Point of View
- _____ ENGWRT 1390 Readings in Contemporary Nonfiction
- _____ ENGWRT 1750 Senior Seminar in Nonfiction
- _____ ENGWRT _____ (elective)
- _____ ENGWRT _____ (elective)
- _____ ENGWRT _____ (elective)

Core literature requirement

Fiction track

- _____ ENGLIT 0325 The Short Story or other approved ENGLIT elective
- _____ ENGLIT _____ (0500-level elective)
- _____ ENGLIT _____ (0500-level elective)
- _____ ENGLIT _____ (1000-level elective)

Poetry track

- _____ ENGLIT 0315 Reading Poetry or other approved ENGLIT elective
- _____ ENGLIT _____ (0500-level elective)
- _____ ENGLIT _____ (0500-level elective)
- _____ ENGLIT _____ (1000-level elective)

Nonfiction track

- _____ ENGLIT 0321 Essays and Memoirs or other approved ENGLIT elective
- _____ ENGLIT _____ (0500-level elective)
- _____ ENGLIT _____ (0500-level elective)
- _____ ENGLIT _____ (1000-level elective)

Satisfactory/No Credit option

There is no limit on the number of courses in the major that can be taken on an S/NC basis. Note that S is the equivalent of a C or better.

Grade requirements

A minimum grade of C or better (not C-) is required in any 0500-level ENGWRT course to advance to the first 1000-level course in that track. Students who earn less than a C in their first 1000-level course may not advance to the other courses in that track.

Moreover, students must earn a minimum grade of C or better (not C-) in their Senior Seminar course.

Writing (W) requirement

English writing majors automatically fulfill both of the Arts and Sciences W-course requirements. Students pursuing a second major would be required to complete an additional W course for that major.

Advising

Jeff Aziz
CL 501C
412-624-2228
JeffAziz@Pitt.edu

Lori Campbell
CL 501C
412-624-6559
LMC5@Pitt.edu

Mark Kemp
CL 501C
412-624-6656
MKemp@Pitt.edu

Checklist for the Creative Writing minor

A student must complete 18 credits of English writing courses, with a 3-course concentration in one of the tracks. A student can declare both a major and a minor in different tracks, provided that they do not overlap courses. Completion of both programs requires 51 credits.

Required course

_____ ENGWRT 0400 Introduction to Creative Writing

One of the following groups of courses

_____ ENGWRT 0520 Introduction to Fiction

_____ ENGWRT 1010 Intermediate Fiction

_____ ENGWRT 1094 Readings in Contemporary Fiction

_____ ENGWRT 0530 Introduction to Poetry

_____ ENGWRT 1210 Poetry Workshop

_____ ENGWRT 1290 Readings in Contemporary Poetry

_____ ENGWRT 0610 Introduction to Journalism and
Nonfiction

_____ ENGWRT 1330 Intermediate Nonfiction

_____ ENGWRT 1390 Readings in Contemporary Nonfiction

Two elective courses

_____ ENGWRT 0500-level or higher

_____ ENGWRT 0500-level or higher