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, nonfiction 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.

ENGCMP 0200 Seminar in Composition
ENGCMP 0203 Seminar in Composition: Women’s Studies
ENGCMP 0205 Seminar in Composition: Film
ENGCMP 0207 Seminar in Composition: Education
ENGCMP 0208 Seminar in Composition: Service Learning
ENGCMP 0210 Seminar in Composition: Writing and Film
ENGCMP 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)

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)

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

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

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