Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing (MFA)

The Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing degree is offered by the Creative Writing Department of the Division of Graduate and Professional Studies, and represents the study of literature from the perspective of the writer rather than that of the critic or the scholar. The reading and analytical components of each semester project, and the lectures offered during the residencies, provide opportunities for a well-integrated humanities-based curriculum, without sacrifice of direct manuscript work and criticism. The MFA in Creative Writing graduate is well-prepared in literature (especially the student’s primary genre) as well as in writing. The MFA in Creative Writing program's goal is not to credential, but rather to help students with their writing and their creative education.

SPECIAL EMPHASES OF THE MFA IN CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

The MFA in Creative Writing program is devoted to the education of literary artists, community engagement or service, and the pursuit of social justice. The program helps writers develop the skills of their craft and teaches them about the various roles of the writer in society. The program also develops awareness of and appreciation for culturally diverse writers and traditions.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon leaving the program, MFA students will be able to demonstrate:

1. Proficiency of writing skills for selected genres: creative nonfiction, fiction, poetry, and writing for young people.
2. Critical reading, writing, and thinking skills required of a literary artist.
3. Knowledge of ethical dilemmas and social values of the literary arts.
4. Commitment to a broad range of issues and activities associated with a literary writer and the communities in which the writer lives and works.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The MFA in Creative Writing program is a low-residency, mentor-based (as opposed to a course-based) program. There are no individual courses offered for units of credit. The MFA program includes five ten-day intensive residencies at the Los Angeles campus (or six residencies in the dual concentration option) involving required and elective activities, writing workshops, and individual as well as collaborative learning experiences. These residencies alternate with five-month non-residential, online project periods for the completion of individualized learning plans and projects designed with the student’s faculty mentor. Students are awarded 12 semester units for the completion of each semester’s learning, including both residency and project period activities.

The curriculum offers instruction in the techniques of writing in the genres of creative nonfiction, fiction, poetry, and writing for young people in combination with theoretical interpretation, cultural and literary criticism, and the exploration of social contexts. A required field study involves the student in experiential learning, such as involvement in community arts activities, the teaching of creative writing, or an internship in a professional setting. Students also study cultural mediation through the collaborative practice of translation and adaptation. Intense student-faculty mentoring relationships support the student learning and round out the curriculum. During the project periods, online conferences such as critique and reading groups connect students and mentors on a regular basis in an active learning network.

Each term, students are issued a Residency and Semester Student Handbook detailing specific learning activities for the upcoming residency. This Student Handbook also includes information on program requirements, policies, procedures, and documentation of learning.

DEGREE OPTIONS

This low-residency MFA program for adult students is designed to provide writers with a high level of professional training and an appreciation for the multifaceted relationship of the arts and artists to society. Creative nonfiction, fiction, poetry, and writing for young people are offered as primary genres for study, and literary translation is offered as a secondary genre for study. There are three options for completing the MFA degree:

- **Single genre option** – the student chooses one genre as the designated field of study and works in that genre for four terms (two years).
- **Mixed genre option** – the student chooses to spend three terms in a primary genre and one term in a second genre (two years). This is referred to as a “Genre Jump”.
- **Dual concentration** – the student spends three terms in the primary genre and two terms in a second genre (two and one half years). Before the beginning of their fourth residency, students seeking this option, 1) must have spent one term in the second genre, and 2) must have declared their intent to pursue a dual concentration.

"Campus Jump" Semesters in the MFA in Writing & Contemporary Media Curriculum at Antioch University Barbara (AUSB)

In addition to the genres of study offered at the Los Angeles campus (fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and writing for young people), students in L.A.’s MFA in Creative Writing program (AULA) who choose either a mixed or dual concentration may choose to write and study one of the genres offered through the MFA in Writing & Contemporary Media offered at our sister campus in Santa Barbara: TV/screenwriting, play writing, and writing for new and emerging media. Students who wish to study these screen-or-stage-based genres may spend either one residency (mixed genre option) or two
residencies (dual concentration) at the Santa Barbara campus, followed by either one (mixed genre option) or two (dual concentration) online project periods working with a professional script writer. For further information about AULA to AUSB or AUSB to AULA MFA “campus jump” options, please contact the chair or director of either program.

**Advanced Standing**

Advanced standing in the MFA in Creative Writing program can be sought by students who have completed at least one semester in another MFA in Creative Writing program in an accredited college or university. Students with an MA in English or other qualifications may also be granted Advanced standing on a case-by-case basis. After having been accepted into the AULA MFA in Creative Writing program, students may request advanced standing under the advice and guidance of the Creative Writing Department Chair. Advanced standing qualifies a student to complete the standard MFA in Creative Writing program in three terms rather than four. Advanced standing moves the student forward only one term.

**The MFA Professional Development Semesters**

The MFA Professional Development Semester (PDS) consists of a single term that may be taken for a range of 5-10 units of credit. The options are: PDS A) an additional semester of project period mentoring any of the following genres: fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, writing for young people, or literary translation at the Los Angeles campus, or a campus jump into TV/screenwriting, play writing, or writing for new or emerging media at the Santa Barbara campus (5 units, either campus); or PDS B) training and practice in the teaching of creative writing online, including online book coaching (5 units, Los Angeles campus only). The MFA Professional Development Semester is offered to Antioch MFA alumni as well as currently enrolled MFA students who have completed all requirements for the MFA degree except the formatting review of the final manuscript. Continuing MFA students take the PDS during their fifth (or, in the case of dual concentrations, sixth) term of work. The 5 or 10 PDS units are added to the continuing student's number of units required for graduation, making a total of 53 or 58 units that must be completed in order to earn the degree. Continuing MFA students may take only one Professional Development Semester but may also return for additional PDS terms as alumni. MFA alumni enroll in a PDS term as non-matriculating students.

**Post-MFA Certificate in the Teaching of Creative Writing**

A Post-MFA Certificate in the Teaching of Creative Writing is available to eligible MFA in Creative Writing students who have met all requirements for the degree, to AULA MFA in Creative Writing alumni, and to those holding the degree of MFA in Creative Writing from other institutions. The Certificate is described later in this page.

**THE MFA RESIDENCY**

The ten-day residencies in June and December form a principal component of the MFA in Creative Writing program. Required to initiate each semester’s work, the residency provides the student with seminars, lectures and workshops, an opportunity to submit preferences for a faculty mentor, and time to prepare the project period learning plan. It also offers the student peer support and networking with other writers.

Each ten-day residency at the Los Angeles campus provides the student with:

- Exposure to a wide range of collaborative and independent learning activities in the field
- Input in the selection of a faculty mentor for the upcoming project period
- Time to prepare the project period learning plan with the mentor
- General direction in the development of an individual curriculum
- Stimulation and support

Students and faculty come to the Los Angeles campus to participate in intensive sessions in writing and literature, as well as informal exchanges with students, faculty and special guests on social issues related to the arts. Faculty, visiting writers, and graduating students present lectures in literature, literary theory, the craft of writing, and the professional aspects of a writing life. Descriptions of residency seminars, panels, and other presentations are included in the MFA Student Handbook. The handbook is mailed to students and posted online in advance of the residency so that students may select learning activities in which they wish to participate and to prepare for them. The learning activity descriptions include a list of works that students are expected to be familiar with in order to attend and benefit from a faculty or guest seminar, or a graduating student presentation. Students are expected to attend a minimum of seven learning activities during each residency (including a genre writing workshop) along with required orientations for specific student cohorts. In addition, students must attend two community activities (at least one “brown bag” lunch-time student reading and one graduating student reading) every residency.

The genre writing workshops, which meet on alternate days throughout the residency, encourage the development of analytical skills and critical abilities in a genre. Workshops are led by faculty members and students serve as resources for one another. Each includes six to nine students. During the residency, each student has original writing discussed in a workshop. Students are required to submit in advance representative new work completed during the previous semester’s project period; new students may include work submitted with the application. A maximum of ten pages of poetry are requested; fiction and nonfiction writers submit a maximum of 20 double-spaced pages. Prior to the residency, students should prepare typed critiques for each fellow author and plan to hand these out in person to the author immediately after the writer's work has been discussed. The critique should be a minimum of 200 words with no maximum for each separate work (story, essay, poem, etc.) submitted for discussion.

Each residency schedule includes a variety of special presentations, optional off-site events, performances, and other activities. Faculty members and graduating students give public readings of their work. Additionally, visiting writers are brought to the campus to participate in residency activities...
and give readings or presentations. Special discussion sessions are held on publishing, networking, electronic writing, book arts, dramatic writing, performance art, and the like. These special discussions vary with each residency.

Prior to the residency, students are encouraged to read published work by members of the faculty for that semester. During the residency, students submit their preferences for the faculty mentor who will work with them during the project period. The MFA core faculty team then assigns an appropriate mentor, based on student choice, student seniority, faculty availability, and other factors. The program cannot guarantee that each student will be able to work with every faculty member s/he/they wishes to have as a mentor or workshop leader. Students are required to work with a variety of faculty during their time in the program, and they are permitted to request to work with the same project period mentor for a maximum of two semesters.

During the residency, students meet in groups and in individual conferences with their assigned faculty mentor to discuss their learning projects for the upcoming project period. New students are oriented to the program model and counseled in how to meet degree requirements. High value is also placed on students being resources for one another.

Students and faculty do not reside on campus during the residency. Students must secure their own housing at one of the many hotels or rentals nearby. Students may choose to stay in other facilities, or with friends or family.

Students are generally expected to be on campus from 9:00 a.m. to as late as 9:00 p.m. every residency day, because of the full schedule of activities and the importance of informal, unscheduled exchange with colleagues (both faculty and students). Although readings are open to the public, other activities and facilities are for students only. With the exception of readings, students may not bring spouses, partners, friends or family to campus, as the residency period is an extremely demanding time to which the student must give full attention. No childcare is provided by the University. Campus policy does not allow pets on campus except for service animals. Other details of the residency, including accommodations, directions to the campus, etc., are included in the MFA Student Handbook distributed by mail.

During the residency, each student maintains a Residency Log, which is a list of the learning activities s/he/they has attended. The log must be submitted at the conclusion of each residency. Students must also write and submit a residency student learning analysis (RSLA) reflecting on the various learning activities during the residency. This must be submitted to the MFA program office approximately ten days after the student departs from the residency and it becomes a part of the student’s permanent file. In addition, students complete a residency review, identifying strengths, weaknesses, and suggestions for future residencies. The review, submitted via email, helps the MFA program faculty plan the next residency period more effectively, and does not become part of the student’s permanent file.

Students are expected to participate fully in the entire ten-day residency period. Full participation is required to earn the semester’s credit and for the granting of the degree. If, for some exceptional reason such as health or family emergency, a student cannot participate fully, s/he/they must petition the MFA program for a one-semester leave of absence (LOA). See the Office of the Registrar Policies and Procedures section of this Catalog for further information about LOAs. Students on leave are reminded that a new semester cannot be initiated without full residency participation.

The Project Period and Project Period Contract

The second essential component of the MFA is the project period. During each residency, students are assigned a faculty mentor with whom they design a five-month learning plan called a Project Period Contract (PPC). The Project Period Contract contains the following elements:

- A list of specific learning objectives for the term
- A list of what the student will write in order to achieve these objectives
- A list of books and shorter works the student will read individually and in common with her/his/their mentee group in order to achieve the learning objectives
- A schedule by which writings and readings will be completed

A signed Project Period Contract is required before the student departs from the residency.

Activities in the PPC are completed during the project period. During these five months, regular communication is conducted with the faculty mentor via email, telephone, mail, and AULA’s online learning management system. Over the course of the project period, students submit five monthly packets of work to their mentors. Small groups of students also participate in an online reading conference supervised by their respective mentors. Project period activities require a minimum of 25 hours per week, consisting of reading and writing, conferencing, and communicating with other students.

The primary focus of the project period is the student’s own creative writing as well as written annotations based on selected readings. Specific project periods also include other core requirements, such as the Art of Translation Conference (2nd project period), the Critical Paper (2nd and 3rd project period), the Final Manuscript, and Cumulative Annotated Bibliography. These last two requirements are completed during the student’s final project period in either the 4th or 5th semester, depending on whether or not the student is pursuing a dual concentration.

Online Communication

An important feature of the MFA in Creative Writing program is the online component. During the project period, students, mentoring faculty, the Creative Writing Department office, and all offices at AULA are connected online through the AULA Gmail system and the online learning management system, Sakai, on which students are trained during their first residency. Mentors also establish private online reading and writing/critique conferences for their mentees on the learning management platform. While some faculty and students exchange work and information by regular mail and communicate by
phone, the primary means of exchange is online via the AULA Gmail system. The Creative Writing Department also communicates information to faculty and students online through the AULA Gmail system.

**The Midterm Evaluation**

Midway through the project period, the mentor completes a midterm evaluation that indicates the student’s satisfactory work toward the Project Period Contract’s learning objectives or indicates problems with the student’s work and student-faculty relationship that might prevent the student from successfully completing the semester. This midterm evaluation is submitted to the Creative Writing Department office. If it is an unsatisfactory evaluation, the student is contacted by the Creative Writing Department chair to discuss strategies for academic improvement or the potential for the student being placed on probation. The student also completes a midterm self-evaluation which is submitted to the mentor and the Creative Writing Department office. By mutual agreement, the student and mentor may modify the Project Period Contract during the project period, but any significant changes to the original contract must be noted in the mentor’s Student Learning Evaluation (SLE) at the end of the term. Another progress evaluation from the mentor is provided at the three quarter point of the project period to satisfy requirements of the Financial Aid office.

**DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

The decision to grant the MFA degree is made by the MFA Faculty Committee upon recommendation of the faculty mentor. The student’s record must demonstrate the following:

- Full participation in five residencies (six for the dual concentration option)
- Successful completion of four project periods (five for the dual concentration option)
- Completion of the Art of Translation Seminar and online Art of Translation Conference
- Completion of the Critical Paper
- Working with at least three different faculty mentors (during the project periods) during the course of the program
- Completion of a core faculty-approved Field Study
- Broad reading and the preparation of a cumulative annotated bibliography in creative writing, literature, and the arts
- Successful completion of the final semester requirements: the graduating student presentation, graduating student public reading, and the final manuscript

The criteria for granting the degree include completion of all the above degree requirements, creative writing ability, engagement with perennial questions of literature and the social role of the writer, experience in applied criticism, and knowledge of the genre/genres studied in the program. It is expected that developing mastery in these areas will be demonstrated in each residency and project period evaluation, as well as documented specifically in responses to and evaluations of the student’s work for each project period, including monthly packets of creative writing, critical papers, the field study, the final manuscript, and at the end of the student’s final residency, the graduating student presentation.

**Sample Curriculum Plan**

Students are required to participate in all learning activities specified as “required” for their specific cohort in the Student Handbook. The following curriculum plan illustrates a typical program of study. Bracketed items may be taken during any residency or project period in which they are offered. This is a representative plan, but each student’s progress through the program is designed individually in consultation with her or his faculty mentors.

**Semester 1**

**Residency 1:**
- New Student Orientations, Parts I & II
- Orientation to Sakai and Antioch Gmail
- Introduction to Online Conferencing
- Arts, Culture and Society I
- [Orientation to the MFA Field Study]
- [Writers at Work]
- Reading as a Writer
- Mentor interviewing and selection
- Genre Writing Workshop
- Seminars/readings/panels/graduating student presentations
- Student Log, Residency Student Learning Analysis and Project Period Contract

**Project Period 1:**
- Monthly submission of creative work to mentor
- Selected reading and written annotations
• Submission of workshop material for residency 2
• MFA field study preparation
• Online book discussion forum on Sakai
• Project Period Student Learning Analysis and Student Evaluation of Mentor

Semester 2

Residency 2:

• Mentor interviewing and selection
• [Arts, Culture and Society II (topic varies each residency)]
• Genre Writing Workshop
• Seminars/readings/panels/graduating student presentations
• [Orientation to the Field Study]
• The Art of Translation Seminar
• Student Log, Residency Student Learning Analysis and Project Period Contract

Project Period 2:

• Monthly submission of creative work to mentor
• Selected reading and written annotations
• Online Translation and Adaptation Conference
• Field study completed
• Online book discussion forum on Sakai
• Submission of workshop material for residency 3
• Practice Critical Paper
• Project Period Student Learning Analysis and Student Evaluation of Mentor

Semester 3

Residency 3:

• Mentor interviewing and selection
• Critical Paper Seminar
• Genre Writing Workshop
• Seminars/readings/panels/graduating student presentations
• Student Log, Residency Student Learning Analysis and Project Period Contract

Project Period 3:

• Monthly submission of creative work to mentor
• Selected reading and written annotations
• Critical Paper
• Online book discussion forum on Sakai
• Submission of workshop material for residency 4
• Project Period Student Learning Analysis and Student Evaluation of Mentor

Semester 4

Residency 4:

• Submission of Critical Paper to MFA Program Office
• Orientation to the Final Term
• How to Prepare and Give a 20-Minute Graduating Student Presentation
• Mentor interview and selection
• Genre Writing Workshop
• Seminars/readings/panels/graduating student presentations
• Residency Student Learning Analysis and Project Period Contract
Project Period 4:

- Preparation of the Final Manuscript
- Preparation of graduating student presentation and public reading
- Selected reading and written annotations
- Preparation of Cumulative Annotated Bibliography
- Online book discussion forum on Sakai
- Submission of workshop material for residency 5
- Project Period Student Learning Analysis and Student Evaluation of Mentor

Residency 5:

- Submission of final manuscript to MFA Program Office
- Submission of cumulative annotated bibliography to MFA Program Office
- Genre Writing Workshop
- Life After Antioch
- Seminars/readings/panels/graduating student presentations
- Present graduating student presentation
- Perform graduating student public reading of creative work
- Student Log and Residency Student Learning Analysis

Semester 5 (for dual concentration students only)

Project Period 5:

- For Dual Concentration students, same as project period 4

Residency 6:

- For Dual Concentration students, same as residency 5

Final Semester Requirements

At the end of at least three successful semesters (four for dual concentration students), and with faculty mentor approval of the Critical Paper, the student proceeds into the final semester’s projects. During the final residency, the student is also expected to offer a 20-minute conference-style presentation under faculty supervision and to present a public reading of her/his work. Final semester work focuses primarily on the preparation of the Cumulative Annotated Bibliography (a complete listing of everything the student has read and studied during the program) and the Final Manuscript, described below.

The Final Manuscript

The Final Manuscript is a volume of the student’s best creative work produced in the MFA program, reflecting proportionally the genre(s) the student has studied under the supervision of his/her/their mentors each project period.

For students who concentrate in a **single genre**, the requirements are as follows:

- Creative Nonfiction: At least 100 manuscript pages
- Fiction: At least 100 manuscript pages
- Poetry: At least 40 manuscript pages
- Writing for Young People: At least 100 manuscript pages

For students who pursue a **mixed concentration** (3 semesters in a primary genre, 1 in a secondary genre), the minimum page requirements are listed below.

**Note**: Creative Nonfiction, Fiction, Writing for Young People, and all genres offered by the AUSB program are each calculated as “prose.”

- Poetry (primary) and prose (secondary): 30 pages of poems, 25 pages of prose
- Prose (primary) and Poetry (secondary): 75 pages of prose, 10 pages of poems
- Prose (primary) and different genre of prose (secondary): 75 pages of primary genre, 25 pages of secondary genre
For students who pursue a Dual Concentration (3 semesters in a primary genre, 2 in a secondary genre), the minimum page requirements are as follows:

- Poetry (primary) and prose (secondary): 30 pages of poems, 50 pages of prose
- Prose (primary) and Poetry (secondary): 75 pages of prose, 20 pages of poems
- Prose (primary) and different genre of prose (secondary): 75 pages of primary genre, 50 pages of secondary genre

ASSESSMENT

Student learning in the MFA in Creative Writing program is assessed in a number of ways, all of which are grounded in the program’s learning objectives and mission.

Each student’s writing is evaluated by a faculty admissions committee during the application process. This writing sample and faculty evaluation serve as a baseline from which to identify the student’s strengths in writing and assess the student’s improvement through the course of the program.

The evaluation of the student’s learning and, more precisely, the student’s development and mastery of writing skills in a selected genre occurs in several ways:

- Students receive ongoing responses to their writing from faculty mentors and peers throughout the program.
- As noted above, there is a midterm evaluation for each project period.
- Students write their own project period student learning analysis and receive their mentor’s evaluation at the end of each project period.
- At the end of the final project period, the mentor approves the student’s Final Manuscript (which also must be approved and signed by the MFA chair) and writes the final evaluation, clearing the student for graduation.
- Faculty and peer review of each graduating student’s presentation are gathered during the final residency and later shared with the student.

HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

Because the MFA learning community engages in distance and hybrid education, it is essential that every student in the MFA program have ongoing reliable access to a working computer and a stable Internet connection.

Please consult the Antioch University website and the MFA Program Office for our regularly updated information on hardware and software requirements.

Computer Hardware/Operating System:

Mac (10.5 or higher) or Windows PC (XP or higher) with a minimum of 1GB of RAM (2GB recommended)

Computer speakers to listen to audio content

Webcam to participate in course-related video conferencing

We recommend that you use a computer purchased in the last 2-3 years. Many retailers offer discounts on new laptops and desktops to enrolled students.

Office Productivity Software:

Word processing software that can save to MS Word “doc” or “docx” format

A good choice for students is a current office suite package, such as Microsoft Office, that includes word processing, presentation, spreadsheet, and other useful software. See Antioch website for other acceptable options. (Antioch University requires students and faculty to trade files in .docx format to prevent incompatibilities.)

Internet Connectivity:

Reliable Internet connection

Consistent access to a high-speed (i.e., cable/DSL) Internet connection is strongly recommended. Slower connections via telephone lines may result in lost work and frustration. Also, it is helpful to have consistent access outside of an office environment. Some offices have restrictions on network usage that can interfere with accessing school site.

Internet Browsers and Plug-Ins:

Please use one of the following Internet browsers:
Internet Explorer 8 or higher (PC)
Firefox 3.5 or higher (PC, Mac)
Google Chrome 7.0 or higher (PC, Mac)
Safari 5.0 or higher (Mac)

Note: Firefox has worked especially well for students accessing Sakai.

Free Internet plug-ins should allow you to view PDF documents, and play multimedia files.

**Security, Anti-Virus, and Handheld Devices:**

Antioch University urges you to take steps to prevent viruses and other malware from infecting your educational computing environment. To that end, we recommend you use and keep updated reliable anti-virus software, and malware and spyware protection.

We also encourage all members of our community to back up their work often to protect against computer failure. The MFA program requires students to maintain some documents over the course of their two years in the program. It is essential that you not let natural disaster or computer failure create challenges for you in the months leading up to your graduation.

Please note that handheld and tablet devices may be very helpful, but will not be able to interact with all the online features of the MFA program.

**LEARNING ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS**

**Residency Core Offerings**

**Genre Writing Workshop**

The Genre Writing Workshop is an intensive four-day workshop (10 total hours) in the genre (creative nonfiction, fiction, poetry, or writing for young people) the student concentrated on in the project period that preceded the residency. (Note: Mixed genre students and incoming students participate in a workshop in the genre they were mentored—or accepted in—that precedes the residency.)

**Arts, Culture, and Society (I & II)**

These courses investigate the relation between cultural production, politics and social change. With a lecture-discussion format, students focus attention on the principal aspects of cultural theory in an effort to come to a fuller understanding of the place of writing and the arts within our social system. Students gain a better understanding of themselves as cultural workers situated within particular matrices of political and social power.

**Orientation to the Field Study**

Students are required to complete one field study project, pre-approved by core faculty. In some instances, pre-designed field studies are available for students to select. These include interviewing and introducing guest writers or working on the MFA program’s student-edited online literary journal, Lunch Ticket. However, in most instances, students develop opportunities for these learning experiences under the guidance of their core faculty field study mentor and on-site field study supervisor. Field studies can consist of varied types of learning such as developing a multimedia presentation, interning in professional settings or cultural organizations, creating a web page, editing a magazine, and other activities or projects approved by the core faculty and on-site field study supervisor. Each student’s field study is expected to address at least two of the three aspects of the MFA program’s special focus: the education of literary artists, community engagement, and the pursuit of social justice.

**Seminars/Presentations on the Art and Culture of Writing**

Faculty and guest writers present historical, critical, and process seminars on writing and the work of writers. Graduating students present 20-minute conference-style presentations on literary topics.

**Critical Paper Seminar**

This course introduces students to graduate-level library research. Students learn to research topics in literary studies, access on-line libraries, provide proper documentation for critical papers, and prepare critical paper manuscripts according to Modern Language Association guidelines.

**The Art of Translation Seminar**

This seminar familiarizes students with the art of translation and adaptation of literary texts. One of the primary goals of this conference is cultural mediation. Collaborative translation and adaptation create bridges to other cultures while honing English language skills by creating "equivalent" patterns of sound and sense that also serve the originality of poems in another tongue. Spinoffs and rewritings of poems and short prose passages also help students discover how their own cultures modulate universal themes. It is not necessary to know a foreign language to participate in this seminar.

**How to Prepare and Teach a 20-Minute Presentation**
This seminar helps students approaching graduation prepare to give their graduating student presentations. The broader purpose is twofold: 1) To help students envision their presentations with clear delivery of information and audience engagement; and 2) to help students envision contexts in which this type of presentation – teaching, job interviews, conference presentations, etc. – will be essential to success.

**Writers at Work**

Lectures, field trips, meetings with editors and publishers, and other resources show students ways in which creative writers earn a living in today's culture.

**Creative Writing Pedagogy Workshop**

This workshop is an intensive, four-day workshop (10 total hours) in innovative creative writing pedagogies, required for students in the Post-MFA Certificate in the Teaching of Creative Writing program.

**The Pedagogy of Creative Writing**

Various faculty seminars are offered which examine both the theory and the practice of teaching creative writing. Of particular interest is an ongoing critique of the workshop model, offering multiple alternative paradigms for the production and critical assessment of creative work that may better suit the needs of emerging creative writers. Required for students in the Post-MFA Certificate in the Teaching of Creative Writing program.