



## CREATIVE WRITING AND LITERATURE CONCENTRATION

The Residential College's Creative Writing and Literature Concentration combines the sustained, disciplined practice of writing with the serious study of literature. The main goal of the program is to help students develop their creative abilities through a continuous, interrelated cycle of writing, rewriting, and literary analysis. Creative writing courses are taught as workshops and tutorials in which students work individually with faculty members. Students are required to take courses in literature in order to understand better the art of writing.

### CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to complete a **minimum of four** creative writing courses, at least three of which must be at the 300 level or above and at least three of which must be taken in the RC. A usual track is an introductory course (Narration, Writing of Poetry, etc.) and **three** writing tutorials. Students have the option, with the permission of the instructor, of taking Advanced Narration, Advanced Poetry Writing, etc., in place of one of the tutorials.

#### Creative Writing courses are described below:

##### **RCHUMS 220: Narration**

In this course students write and/or rewrite 1250 words of prose fiction each week and meet privately with the instructor to discuss their work. Collections of short fiction by established writers are read.

##### **RCHUMS 221: Writing Poetry**

Students write and submit poetry each week. These works are appraised and critiqued by class members and in private sessions with the instructor. Contemporary poetry is read and discussed.

##### **RCHUMS 242: Creative Nonfiction: Creative Adaptation**

Students in this course will complete one long (25-30 page) creative nonfiction project on a topic of their choice. Projects must be grounded in solid research and may include personal essays, interviews and/or oral history, biographies, screenplays, plays, historical fiction, adaptations from one medium to another (eg. prose to play), and mixed media (text and image). In addition to formal class meetings, students will meet individually with instructor in tutorial sessions throughout the semester



and will conduct independent field research. This course includes an introduction to archives and the opportunity to conduct archival research using primary sources.

### **RCHUMS 320: Advanced Narration**

This course is designed for writers of longer fiction who can benefit from instruction and peer feedback. Three 15 to 20 page short stories or segments of a longer work are due at regular intervals during the term. The class is a workshop where students read and critique one another's work in addition to meeting privately with the instructor.

### **RCHUMS 321: Advanced Poetry Writing**

This is an advanced poetry writing workshop. Students must be willing to read their poems in class and actively participate in the critical evaluation of other students' work. A finished manuscript of 25-30 pages is a course requirement.

### **RCHUMS 325, 326, 425, 426: Creative Writing Tutorials**

Tutorials allow students whose writing has attained a high degree of sophistication to work on extended projects under close supervision. Tutorial students meet privately with the instructor each week. Reading may be assigned on an individual basis.

## **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Students are required to complete **five** literature courses, at the 300-level or above, that model the genre they are pursuing in their writing. These courses must be approved in advance of registration by their concentration advisor. One literature course must be at the 300-level or above in **either** ancient literature (e.g., HUMS 309: Classical Sources of Modern Culture; English 401: The English Bible); **or** medieval literature (e.g., Hums 310: Medieval Sources of Modern Culture; Eng 370: Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Literature). The remaining four literature courses must be at the 300-level or above. Students are encouraged to take courses in the Arts and Ideas Concentration that have a strong literature component and stress critical theory. Literature courses may be taken in the Department of English or the Comparative Literature Program. If the student is a concentrator in a second language one upper-level literature course in that language may be counted; **or** if the student spends at least a full semester studying abroad in a non-English speaking country, one upper-level literature course completed in that country may be counted. Upper-level literature courses, taken abroad, in English-speaking countries also may be counted. All literature courses counted toward the Creative Writing and Literature Concentration must be at least three (3) credits.