M.F.A. in Creative Writing Online

The program is offered online through UTEP Connect. (https://www.utep.edu/extendeduniversity/utepconnect/)

Overview

The Bilingual Master of Fine Arts Program in Creative Writing is designed as an artist’s degree that stresses the performance aspect of the discipline. The objectives of the program are to prepare students to be practicing writers and to be teachers of creative writing and contemporary literature. Upon completion, students will have a thorough understanding of form and theory and an advanced background in literature.

Admission Requirements

1. A bachelor’s degree or its equivalent.
2. Transcripts according to the requirements of the Graduate School.
3. Three letters of recommendation.
4. A writing sample in the genre of emphasis: eight to 10 poems; 20 pages of prose, play-writing, essay, or screenplay.
5. A statement of purpose.

The bilingual aspect of this program refers to the coexistence of Spanish and English in the classroom and does not require students to speak both languages. Applicants from countries where English is not the first language are required to demonstrate English proficiency. Please consult the graduate school (http://catalog.utep.edu/admissions/graduate/graduate-student/) website for required scores.

The admission factors will be reviewed holistically to assess the potential of the applicant. The successful applicant would typically have an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher that demonstrates focus on academics in a field that requires critical thinking and creativity, a writing sample in the genre of emphasis that illustrates the applicant’s ability and potential, a personal statement that demonstrates maturity and commitment to a career related to creative writing as well as willingness to interact with diverse cultural backgrounds, and three letters of recommendation from supporting faculty or advisors who can serve as judges of the applicant’s competence and commitment.

Degree Plan Options

In addition, students with an assistantship in the English Department must take ENGL 5345 Writing to Learn, and students with a teaching assistantship in Languages and Linguistics must take LING 5370 Study in Language.

The thesis will consist of a book-length manuscript of original fiction or poetry, play, essay collection, translation, or screenplay, accompanied by a critical preface. Each candidate is required to submit a thesis proposal and a sample of the thesis-in-progress prior to enrolling in Thesis I. The thesis will be prepared under the direction of a thesis director, and it will be judged by a three-member committee and defended orally.

Degree Plan

Required Credits: 48

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5321</td>
<td>Narrative Theory and Poetics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5364</td>
<td>Forms &amp; Techniques of Fiction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5365</td>
<td>Forms &amp; Techniques of Poetry</td>
<td>3</td>
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Workshop and/or Variable Topic

Select five courses from the following:

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5366</td>
<td>Advanced Fiction Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5367</td>
<td>Advanced Poetry Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5369</td>
<td>Advanced Playwriting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5371</td>
<td>Writing the Novel</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRW 5372</td>
<td>Advanced Screenwriting</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRW 5373</td>
<td>Advanced Creative Non-Fiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5374</td>
<td>Ten Prob. for Fiction Writer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRW 5381</td>
<td>Literary Translation</td>
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Literature Courses:

Select four courses from the following:

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5368</td>
<td>Var Topics in Creative Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course</td>
<td>Title</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRW 5370</td>
<td>Literary Translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5376</td>
<td>Writing About Popular Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5377</td>
<td>Rewriting America since 1960s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5378</td>
<td>The Politics of Narration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5379</td>
<td>Kafka and the Art of Fiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5380</td>
<td>Physics of Creative Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRW 5382</td>
<td>Studies in Form</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRW 5386</td>
<td>Minding Fiction</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRW 5388</td>
<td>Storytelling-Film &amp; Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRW 5389</td>
<td>High Modernism in Latin America</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other Electives:**
Select six additional hours from graduate courses 6

**Thesis:**
CRW 5398 Thesis 6 & CRW 5399 and Thesis

**Total Hours** 48