



## CREATIVE WRITING (CWRT)

One of the few such programs in the country, the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing at Penn State Behrend is an intensive and exhaustive course of study in the fine art of writing. The curriculum includes basic craft courses in poetry, fiction, and literary nonfiction, and a series of graduated genre workshops that provide intensive and personal attention to the student's own writing. There are also courses in criticism and theory, and a sequence of literature courses designed to familiarize the student with the significant work in all three genres from both the modern and postmodern eras. This course work is supported by an established reading series which brings writers of national stature to campus to read from their works and talk with students. In addition, students have the opportunity to serve on the editorial staff of *Lake Effect*, an international literary journal published at Penn State Behrend. This opportunity provides both the prospect of earning course credit for serious editorial work and the opportunity to gain invaluable experience that adds to a student's familiarity with the work of contemporary writers.

The B.F.A. major culminates in a senior thesis, a two-semester project to produce a coherent collection of a student's creative writing, including a substantive critical preface. This is produced through close interaction with a mentoring professor. The thesis process concludes with the student's thesis defense and a public reading from the thesis.

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Although the B.F.A. in Creative Writing is a relatively new program, the creative writing program at Penn State Behrend has already distinguished itself by placing alumni in some of the finest M.F.A. programs in the country, such as the University of Utah, Bowling Green State University, Ohio State University, Indiana University, Western Michigan University, Eastern Washington University, University of Minnesota, and the University of Southern California's Professional Writing Program. Current students and recent graduates have published their work in some of the finest literary journals in the country, like *Epoch*, *The Literary Review*, *Mid-American Review*, *Cimarron Review*, and *Third Coast*. They have won regional and state-wide awards and have been finalists for national awards such as the Ruth Lily Fellowship from *Poetry*.

The combination of the rigorous curriculum in the B.F.A. program at Penn State Behrend and the opportunity to participate as an editor or on the editorial staff of *Lake Effect* helps to prepare the student who graduates with a B.F.A. in Creative Writing from Penn State Behrend to be competitive for a variety of positions in publishing, as well as editorial positions with institutions and companies across the country.

Program Chair: Mr. George Looney, 814-898-6281, [GOL1@psu.edu](mailto:GOL1@psu.edu)  
[www.behrend.psu.edu/creativewriting](http://www.behrend.psu.edu/creativewriting)

# CREATIVE WRITING

(B.F.A., 125 credits)

Students should review their degree audits via eLion at <http://eLion.psu.edu>

## General Education (45 credits)

### WRITING/SPEAKING (9 cr)

ENGL/ESL 015 or 030H (GWS) \_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
ENGL 202A, B, C, or D (GWS) \_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
CAS 100A, B, C, or H (GWS) \_\_\_\_\_ (3)

### QUANTIFICATION (6 cr)

any GQ course \_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
any GQ course \_\_\_\_\_ (3)

### NATURAL SCIENCES (9 cr)

Students may complete any 9 credits of GN sciences

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

### HEALTH AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (3 cr)

Students may complete any 3 credits of GHA  
as long as the total equals 3 or more credits.

\_\_\_\_\_ (1)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (1)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (1)

### ARTS (6 cr)

GA courses\*

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

### HUMANITIES (6 cr)

GH courses\*

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

### SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL (6 cr)

GS courses\*

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

### Additional Graduation Requirements

First-Year Seminar (Included in major requirements) \_\_\_\_\_ (1)  
Writing Across the Curriculum in the major (W)\*\* \_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
International Cultures (IL)\*\*+ \_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
United States Cultures (US)\*\*+ \_\_\_\_\_ (3)

\*\*Can also be counted toward General Education or major requirements.

+ Effective for students enrolling in or after summer session 2005.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE (0–12 credits):** students must attain 12<sup>th</sup> credit level proficiency.

\_\_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (4)

This requirement is governed by a placement policy dictated by the number of levels of foreign language completed prior to admission to college.

\*Courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major.

**Note:** A student may request an exception in order to establish a focus in one area. For example, a student may opt to take *one* course in the Social and Behavioral Sciences, *two* in the Arts, and *three* in the Humanities—referred to as the 3-6-9 sequence.

**GENERAL EDUCATION (45 credits)**  
**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR (80 credits)**

**PRESCRIBED COURSES (52–56 credits)**

|                        |                          |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| ENGL 006 (ELISH 001)   | CW COMMON TIME           | ___ (4–8)* |
| ENGL 200               | INTRO CRIT READ          | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 212               | INTRO FICTION WRTG       | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 213               | INTRO POETRY WRTG        | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 215               | INTRO ARTICLE WRTG       | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 311 (ELISH 300)   | CANON/CRITICS            | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 312 (ELISH 301)   | GLOBALITY/LIT            | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 401W (ELISH 484W) | CREATIVE WRITING THEORY  | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 433 (ELISH 442)   | AMER NOVEL 1900-45       | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 434               | TOPICS IN AMER LIT       | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 436 (ELISH 488)   | AMER FICTION SINCE 1945  | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 437               | THE POET IN AMERICA      | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 439               | AMER NONFICTION PROSE    | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 444 (ELISH 448)   | SHAKESPEARE              | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 458               | TWENTIETH-CENTURY POET   | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 494 (ELISH 494A)  | SENIOR THESIS IN ENGLISH | ___ (6)[1] |

\*Students planning to major in creative writing should enroll in this course every semester (typically 8 semesters). A student is required to take this course a minimum of four times.

**ADDITIONAL COURSES (19 credits)**

Select 1 credit of First-Year Seminar

Foreign Language Requirement (proficiency of 12 credits of coursework or equivalent)

Students must complete one of the following genre sequences (6 credits):

|                           |            |                             |            |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| ENGL 412 ADV FICTION WRTG | ___ (3)[1] | & ENGL 422 FICTION WORKSHOP | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 413 ADV POETRY WRTG  | ___ (3)[1] | & ENGL 423 POETRY WORKSHOP  | ___ (3)[1] |
| ENGL 415 ADV NONFICT WRTG | ___ (3)[1] | & ENGL 425 NONFICT WORKSHOP | ___ (3)[1] |

**SUPPORTING COURSES (9 credits)**

3 credits (any level) from The Canon and Its Critics

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

3 credits (any level) from Globality and Literature

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

3 credits (any level) from Cultural Studies

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

[1] A student enrolled in this major must receive a grade of C or better, as specified in Senate Policy 82-44.

## SUPPORTING COURSES IN THE THREE AREAS

### The Canon and Its Critics Include:

AM ST/ENGL 431  
CMLIT/ENGL 184  
ENGL 001, 002, 003, 129, 134, 192, 262, 263, 265, 430 (ELISH 434), 432 (ELISH 440), 433 (ELISH 442), 436 (ELISH 488), 439, 441, 449 (ELISH 487), 450 (ELISH 461), 451 (ELISH 489), 458  
ENGL/WMNST 194, 489,  
ENGL 492/WMNST 491

### Cultural Studies Include:

AAA S/RL ST 146, AAA S/WMNST 101  
AM ST/WMNST 104  
AM ST 105  
CMLIT/COMM 453  
ENGL 130 (ELISH 130), 135, 139, 180, 191, 401W (ELISH 484W), 402, 404, 415, 420, 467, 477 (ELISH 481), 482W (ELISH 482W), ENGL/WMNST 490  
WMNST 301, 400W  
PHIL 005, 014, 119  
PHIL/WMNST 008  
PL SC 007, 432

### Globality and Literature Include:

CAMS 045  
CMLIT/ENGL 185, 189  
CMLIT 001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 101, 107, 108, 120, 406, 491  
ENGL 088, 104, 140, 182, 182A, 404, 484, 485, 486 (ELISH 485), 488  
GER 190  
PHIL 001, 103

### Full-Time English Faculty

Dr. Dean Baldwin (*Ph.D., The Ohio State University*): British Literature (Shakespeare, British Short Story, Chaucer)  
Dr. Melissa Borgia (*Ph.D., Indiana University of Pennsylvania*): Composition and ESL  
Dr. Teresa Caruso (*Ph.D., Indiana University of Pennsylvania*): American Literature (20<sup>th</sup>-Century Fiction), Women's Studies, Composition, Literary & Cultural Theory  
Dr. John Champagne (*Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh*): Literary Theory, Gender Studies, Composition, Creative Writing (Fiction & Creative Non-Fiction)  
Dr. Mary Connerty (*Ph.D., University of Birmingham*): ESL/Composition, Professional Writing, Jewish Languages and Literature, Sociolinguistics  
Dr. Allan Cook (*Ph.D., University of Michigan*): Composition and Technical Writing  
Ms. Erin (Wright) Dick (*M.A., Gannon University*): Composition  
Dr. Tammie Fleegeer (*Ph.D., Duquesne University*): Composition and Technical Writing  
Ms. Elizabeth Fogle (*M.F.A., Georgia College & State University*): Composition and Technical Writing  
Dr. Sharon Gallagher (*Ph.D., Indiana University of Pennsylvania*): Composition, Business Writing, Mythology  
Ms. Rachel Goertel (*A.B.D., Indiana University of Pennsylvania*): Composition and ESL  
Dr. Brad Lint (*Ph.D., Indiana University of Pennsylvania*): Literary Theory, TESOL, Postcolonial Literature  
Mr. George Looney (*M.F.A., Bowling Green State University*): Creative Writing (Fiction, Poetry)  
Dr. Sara Luttfriing (*Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*): British Literature, Drama, Professional Writing  
Dr. Gregory Morris (*Ph.D., University of Nebraska*): American Literature (Contemporary Fiction, Western Literature, American Short Story), Literary Theory, Composition, and Environmental Literature (sabbatical)  
Dr. Janet Neigh (*Ph.D., Temple University*): Global Literature in English, Film, Women's Studies  
Dr. Tom Noyes (*M.F.A., Wichita State, Ph.D., Ohio University*): Creative Writing (Fiction)  
Ms. Aimee Pogson (*M.F.A., Bowling Green State University*): Creative Writing (Fiction)  
Dr. Robert Roecklein (*Ph.D., Rutgers University*): Political Philosophy, Composition  
Ms. Kim Todd (*M.F.A., University of Montana*): Creative Writing (Literary Nonfiction, Environmental Writing)  
Dr. Craig Warren (*Ph.D., University of Virginia*): Professional Writing, American Studies, Humanities Computing  
Dr. Sarah Whitney (*Ph.D., University of Virginia*): Women's Studies, Composition, and Business Writing  
Ms. Margo Wolfe (*M.A., Gannon University*): Composition

---

**This publication is available in alternative media upon request.** Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.