

MFA Creat Wrtg

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing

Under Review | Fall 2023

Proposal Information

Status Active	Workflow Status In Progress Faculty Senate Approval, Faculty Senate Waiting for Approval Faculty Senate Approval Rick Holmes Nancy Middlebrook	expand ▲
	Changes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Program Description• Admissions Requirements• Graduation Requirements• Requirements• participants	
	Show All ▼	

Proposal Information

Proposed	Proposed	
Sponsoring faculty member ⓘ	Faculty email	
Greg Martin	gmartin@unm.edu	
Existing	Existing	
Sponsoring faculty member ⓘ	Faculty email	
College	Department	Campus
College of Arts & Sciences	English	Main Campus

Effective Term and Year

Proposed
Proposed Effective Term and Year
Fall 2023

Existing
Proposed Effective Term and Year
Fall 2006

Justification

Proposed
Program Justification

The Creative Writing Faculty seeks to revise the current MFA Degree Requirements in order to (1) provide flexibility for MFA students to construct a course of study that reflects their interests; and (2) codify an already longstanding curricular path achieved through petitions.

This proposal allows students to still choose to pursue the path outlined in the original curriculum, focusing more heavily on literature courses. At the same time, it allows students who want to choose more genre studies classes or professional or pedagogical preparation to do that as well. The proposal also codifies a longstanding practice of students who have chosen exactly this kind of flexibility and have achieved this through petitioning the graduate director. As a faculty, we believe MFA students would benefit most in their efforts to write and publish their creative work by the ability to have more choices in their degree path.

Existing
Program Justification

Associated Forms

Select any associated course forms that exist

Select any associated program forms that exist

Program Category and Level

Program Category
Program

Program Level
Graduate

Degree, Minor, or Certificate Name
Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing

Proposed
New Graduate Program
No

Dual Degree
No

Proposed
New Undergrad Degree/Certificate
No

Existing
New Graduate Program
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Existing
New Undergrad Degree/Certificate
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Catalog Information

Proposed

Program Description

The UNM Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Creative Writing is designed for students committed to pursuing the writing life. This three-year degree combines studio-based workshops in fiction, poetry and creative nonfiction with craft seminars and coursework in literature, teaching pedagogy, and professional writing. Students also spend each of their final two semesters working individually with a faculty mentor towards the development of a book-length manuscript suitable for publication. The Department's widely published creative writing faculty, Russo Visiting Professorship, and a national literary magazine, all make for an exciting atmosphere for the study of writing.

Existing

Program Description

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Proposed

Admissions Requirements

Applicants to the M.F.A. in Creative Writing program should already hold a Bachelor's degree. The program requires 48 credit hours of coursework (excluding dissertation credit hours), a comprehensive exam, and a creative dissertation. There is no foreign language requirement for the completion of the M.F.A.

Existing

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Proposed

Graduation Requirements

The M.F.A. in Creative Writing requires 48 credit hours of coursework, distributed over core requirements that include: ENGL 501 Introduction to the Profession for Writers; 18 credit hours of writing workshops; 6 credit hours of ENGL 587 Genre Studies; 6 credit hours of literature study; 6 credit hours of rhetoric and writing/professional preparation courses; 6 credit hours of student choice; and 3 credit hours of electives which may be taken outside the department. The program also requires 6 credit hours of dissertation that do not count toward the 48-credit hour coursework requirement.

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Existing

Graduation Requirements

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Program Information

Degree Type

Master of Fine Arts

Degree/Certificate Type

Graduate

CIP Code ⓘ

CIP Title ⓘ

Plan Options

Professional Credential/Licensure Program Information

Proposed

Licensure Information

Neither

Existing

Licensure Information

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File Uploads

Degree Information

Degree Hours

48

Minimum Major Hours

Professional Accrediting Bodies

Degree Requirements

Requirements

Fetching rules...

Concentrations

Program Concentrations

Code

Title

Concentration Required

No

Emphases

Emphasis required ⓘ

No

Emphasis Hours

Emphasis Rules

No Rules

Program Learning Outcomes

Proposed

Learning Outcomes

A. Composition/Presentation: Students will demonstrate a high level of ability to write and complete an original book-length work of literature that is of publishable quality in a primary genre concentration (poetry, creative nonfiction, fiction).

A.1. Book length creative work: Students will produce a book-length manuscript (length should be appropriate for the genre: poetry, creative nonfiction, fiction).

A.2. Originality, creativity: Students will produce a manuscript that demonstrates originality and creativity in the genre.

A.3. Quality of Writing: Students will produce a manuscript of publishable quality.

B. Knowledge/Research/Practice: Students will locate their work in the context of contemporary literary practice. They will be able to discuss critically the structure, craft, and literary tradition of their own work and the work of various published authors.

B.1. Knowledge of Literary Tradition and Practice: Students will demonstrate knowledge of contemporary literary practice and tradition and be able to place their work in the context of these.

B.2. Knowledge of Theory and Craft: Students will demonstrate knowledge of theory and craft of genre.

B.3. Mastery of Writing Style: Students will demonstrate an ability to write clearly and coherently.

B.4. Oral Communication: Students will demonstrate facility in oral communication.

Existing

Learning Outcomes