Creative Writing

P. Lowell Bowditch, Program Director
541-346-0552
108 Alder Building
5243 University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon 97403-5243

Faculty

Daniel Anderson, professor (poetry). BA, 1987, Cincinnati; MA, 1989, Johns Hopkins. (2010)

Jason Brown, associate professor (fiction). BA, 1991, Bowdoin; MFA, 1995, Cornell. (2011)

Marjorie Celona, assistant professor (fiction). BA, 2006, Victoria; MFA, 2009, Iowa. (2015)

Geri Doran, associate professor (poetry). BA, 1986, Vassar; MFA, 1995, Florida. (2007)

Garrett K. Hongo, College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor (poetry). BA, 1973, Pomona; MFA, 1980, California, Irvine. (1989)

Mat Johnson, professor, BA, 1993, Earlham College; MFA, 1999, Columbia (2018)

Karen Thompson Walker, assistant professor (fiction). BA, 2002, California, Los Angeles; MFA, 2006, Columbia. (2017)

Emeritus

Richard M. Lyons, professor emeritus. BA, 1957, Brooklyn; MFA, 1962, Iowa. (1969)

The date in parentheses at the end of each entry is the first year on the University of Oregon faculty.

Undergraduate Studies

The Creative Writing Program offers two formal courses of study for University of Oregon undergraduates:

Minor in Creative Writing

The creative writing minor offers courses in which students study matters of craft by reading and writing creative works, develop critical thinking and interpretive skills, hone their ability to articulate complex ideas with subtlety and clarity, and gain instruction in the mechanics of writing. Students must take courses for letter grades. Course work required for the minor must be passed with grades of B– or better.

Of the 24 required credits, a maximum of 8 credits at the 200 or 300 level may be transferred. All courses at the 400 level must be taken in residence at the University of Oregon.

Code	Title	Credits
Select two from one of the following groups:		8
Group 1		
CRWR 225	Kidd Workshop I [1]	
CRWR 235	Kidd Workshop II Poetry [1]	
or CRWR 24	Kidd Workshop II: Fiction	
Group 2		
CRWR 230	Introduction to Poetry Writing	
CRWR 240	Introduction to Fiction Writing	
Select two of the following:		8
CRWR 330	Intermediate Poetry Writing [2]	
CRWR 335	Kidd Workshop III: Poetry [1]	
or CRWR 34	Kidd Workshop III: Fiction	
CRWR 336	Intermediate Creative Writing: Literary Nonfiction [2]	
CRWR 340	Intermediate Fiction Writing [2]	
Select two of the following:		8
CRWR 407	Seminar: [Topic]	
CRWR 413	Literature for Poets [2]	
CRWR 414	Literature for Fiction Writers [2]	
CRWR 435	Advanced Poetry Writing [2]	
CRWR 445	Advanced Fiction Writing [2]	
Total Credits		24

[1] Nontransferable. Kidd Tutorial courses are by application only.

[2] Repeatable for credit.

Questions regarding the minor should be addressed to the program director. Students must apply for the minor through the program's office well in advance of graduation for transcript evaluation. In order be eligible for the minor, students must complete all degree requirements and a major in another academic department.

Kidd Tutorial Program

Implemented through the generosity of the Walter P. Kidd family, this yearlong tutorial offers the chance to study writing and literary craft using literary models. The program, which requires a three-term commitment from participants, accommodates a highly flexible and individualized study of fiction, poetry, and literary nonfiction writing. Each section matches one graduate employee—a poet or fiction writer—with as many as 10 students and is overseen by the director of the Kidd Tutorial Program. Participants earn 12 credits in Kidd Workshop I (CRWR 225), Kidd Workshop II Poetry (CRWR 235), Kidd Workshop III: Poetry (CRWR 335) or Kidd Workshop I (CRWR 225), Kidd Workshop II: Fiction (CRWR 245). Kidd Workshop III: Fiction (CRWR 345). Information about application procedures is available on the program's website.

Graduate Studies

Master of Fine Arts Degree

Admission Requirements

1. Bachelor's degree
2. Other materials submitted for admission giving evidence that the applicant will be able to complete the prescribed course of study satisfactorily

Admission Procedures

Apply online from the Creative Writing Program's website; the application fee may be paid by credit card (nonrefundable). The online application requires the following:

- Personal statement (PDF upload)
- Sample of the applicant's writing (PDF upload)

- Transcripts (PDF upload)
- Contact information for as many as four people (three are required) who agree to offer a recommendation

Arrange to have official copies of transcripts sent from institutions where a degree was earned to the UO Office of the Registar.

Application materials must be submitted online by the deadline for admission to the program the following fall term. Admission is made for fall term only. Find information, deadlines, and application instructions on the program's website.

Master of Fine Arts Degree Requirements

The candidate must complete the graduate work during six consecutive terms in residence at the university. The candidate must pass a written examination on a reading list of works of fiction or poetry.

Code	Title	Credits
CRWR 605	Writing and Conference: [Topic]	9
CRWR 607	Seminar: [Topic] (MFA Seminar)	18
CRWR 609	Terminal Creative Project: [Topic]	9
CRWR 635	MFA Poetry Workshop	36
or CRWR 645	MFA Fiction Workshop	
Total Credits		72

Courses

CRWR 199. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable up to six times.

CRWR 225. Kidd Workshop I. 4 Credits.
Introduction to an intensive, yearlong sequence devoted to the study and practice of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction.

CRWR 230. Introduction to Poetry Writing. 4 Credits.
Introduction to forms and techniques of writing poetry.

CRWR 235. Kidd Workshop II Poetry. 4 Credits.
Second in a yearlong sequence devoted to the studying and practicing poetry and fiction, with an emphasis on poetry. Projects include beginning to develop an individual line of inquiry as well as workshopping original poetry.
Prereq: CRWR 225 with a grade of B- or above.

CRWR 240. Introduction to Fiction Writing. 4 Credits.
Introduction to forms and techniques of writing fiction.

CRWR 244. Introduction to Literary Nonfiction. 4 Credits.
Introduction to techniques of writing creative nonfiction (the literary essay). Development of a critical appreciation of the art of writing.

CRWR 245. Kidd Workshop II: Fiction. 4 Credits.
Second class in a yearlong sequence devoted to studying and practicing poetry and fiction, with an emphasis on fiction. Projects include beginning to develop an individual line of inquiry as well as workshopping original fiction.
Prereq: CRWR 225 with a grade of B- or better.

CRWR 330. Intermediate Poetry Writing. 4 Credits.
Intermediate-level study of poetry writing. Repeatable twice for a maximum of 12 credits.
Prereq: one from CRWR 230, CRWR 235 with a grade of B– or better.

CRWR 335. Kidd Workshop III: Poetry. 4 Credits.
Third class in a yearlong sequence devoted to studying and practicing poetry and fiction, with a special emphasis on poetry. Projects include completing the individual line of inquiry, an original portfolio, and the Kidd Workshops student anthology.
Prereq: CRWR 235 with a Grade of B- or better.

CRWR 336. Intermediate Creative Writing: Literary Nonfiction. 4 Credits.
Intermediate-level study of literary nonfiction writing. Repeatable twice for a maximum of 12 credits.
Prereq: one from CRWR 240, CRWR 244, CRWR 245 with a grade of B– or better.

CRWR 340. Intermediate Fiction Writing. 4 Credits.
Intermediate-level study of fiction writing. Repeatable twice for a maximum of 12 credits.
Prereq: one from CRWR 240, CRWR 244, CRWR 245 with a grade of B– or better.

CRWR 345. Kidd Workshop III: Fiction. 4 Credits.
Third class in a yearlong sequence devoted to studying and practicing poetry and fiction, with a special emphasis on fiction. Projects include completing the individual line of inquiry, an original portfolio, and the Kidd Workshops student anthology.
Prereq: CRWR 245 with a Grade of B- or better.

CRWR 399. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable up to six times

CRWR 405. Writing and Conference: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Repeatable.

CRWR 407. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable up to six times

CRWR 410. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable up to six times

CRWR 413. Literature for Poets. 4 Credits.
Advanced discourse on issues and principles related to the craft of poetry. Repeatable twice for a maximum of 12 credits.
Prereq: one from CRWR 330, CRWR 335 with a grade of B– or better. Students majoring in English, journalism, or comparative literature may also enroll with instructor approval.

CRWR 414. Literature for Fiction Writers. 4 Credits.
Advanced discourse on issues and principles related to the craft of fiction. Repeatable twice for a maximum of 12 credits.
Prereq: One from CRWR 336, CRWR 340, CRWR 345 with a grade of B– or better. Students majoring in English, journalism, or comparative literature may also enroll with instructor approval.

CRWR 435. Advanced Poetry Writing. 4 Credits.
Advanced workshop in the writing of poetry. Repeatable twice for a maximum of 12 credits.
Prereq: One from CRWR 330, CRWR 335 with a grade of B– or better.

CRWR 445. Advanced Fiction Writing. 4 Credits.
Advanced workshop in the writing of fiction. Repeatable twice for a maximum of 12 credits.
Prereq: One from CRWR 336, CRWR 340, CRWR 345 with a grade of B– or better.

CRWR 503. Thesis. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

CRWR 507. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable up to six times

CRWR 601. Research: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

CRWR 605. Writing and Conference: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

CRWR 607. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Selected seminars offered each year. Repeatable when topic changes.

CRWR 608. Special Topics: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

CRWR 609. Terminal Creative Project: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.

CRWR 610. Experimental Course [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable when topic changes.

CRWR 635. MFA Poetry Workshop. 6 Credits.
Concentration on student writing in a workshop setting. Open only to students admitted to creative writing master of fine arts program in poetry. Repeatable five times for a maximum of 36 credits.

CRWR 645. MFA Fiction Workshop. 6 Credits.
Concentration on student writing in a workshop setting. Open only to students admitted to creative writing master of fine arts program in fiction. Repeatable five times for a maximum of 36 credits.