

MA Creative Writing

Programme specification

1. Programme details

Item	Information
a) Programme name (incl. pathways):	MA Creative Writing
b) Programme code(s)	TBC
c) Programme credit value(s)	180 CATS 90 ECTS
d) Programme author(s)	Jocelyn Page
e) Entry requirements	You should have (or expect to be awarded) an undergraduate degree of at least second-class standard in a relevant/related subject. You might also be considered for some programmes if you are not a graduate or your degree is in an unrelated field but have relevant experience and can show that you have the ability to work at postgraduate level. We consider applications from candidates without literary backgrounds. In this case, we would focus on your relevant experience, the quality of your portfolio and evidence of wider reading. Applicants from a non-literary background can often bolster their CV with short creative writing courses, to demonstrate written skills and the ability to participate in a workshop environment.
f) Academic year effective from	2026/27

2. Programme Aims & Overview

Aims

This MA Creative Writing supports you as you develop your original writing within the framework of careful reading, analysis and discussion of contemporary literature. You will gain a practical understanding of and skills toward establishing an ongoing creative life, including an awareness of how to publish your own work.

Overview

At the core of this programme is the development of your original writing across the genres of the novel, poetry, life writing and short fiction, which will begin in phase one, leading to further development of creative, reflective and critical literary awareness in phase two. The programme will emphasise a knowledge of the publishing industry with a focus on how to establish a rich, productive on-going creative life. Through modular

assessments, you will produce creative and reflective writing in all genres, as drafts, specialising in one genre for further exploration, reflection and final submission. Practice and publication modules will prepare you in useful ways for a generative creative and professional life.

3. External reference

Item	Information
a) FHEQ Level of Award:	7
b) UCAS Code(s):	N/A
c) HECoS Code(s):	TBC
d) QAA Benchmark group:	Creative Writing

4. Awards

Item	Information
g) Awarding institution:	Goldsmiths, University of London
h) Teaching institution:	Goldsmiths, University of London
i) Home School:	Music, English & Theatre If other, name here: N/A
j) School(s) also involved in teaching of the programme:	1. None 2. None 3. None If other, name here: N/A
k) Entry awards:	☐ Foundation Cert ☐ CertHE ☐ DipHE ☒ PGCert ☒ PGDip
l) Interim exit awards:	☐ Foundation Cert ☐ CertHE ☐ DipHE ☒ PGCert ☒ PGDip
m) Final awards:	PGCert Creative Writing PGDip Creative Writing MA Creative Writing

5. Delivery

Item	Information
a) Language of study:	English
b) Valid intake points in year:	☐ January ☒ Sept/Oct ☒ Other If other, specify: August, September, March and June Click or tap here to enter text.
c) Mode of study:	Online Distance Learning Indicate the overall balance of teaching modes in the rows below. Row d) shows total hours of directed learning, with e) and f) showing how this

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	is broken down in in-person vs. online learning, in hours and percentages.	
d) Total hours directed learning/year	1800	
e) In-person hours	0	0%
f) Online hours	1800	100%
g) Pace of study:	☐ Full time ☒ Part time	
h) Duration of programme	Full time: N/A ☐ years ☐ months Part time: 24 ☐ years ☒ months	
i) External accreditation:	N/A Click or tap here to enter text.	
j) Apprenticeship Standard:	N/A	

6. Programme Learning Outcomes

Also, see the [curriculum map](#) at the end of document.

For UG exit awards, Learning Outcomes must be achieved in the level indicated below:

- CertHE = Level 4
- DipHE = Level 5

Learning outcomes are grouped in categories of:

- **Declarative learning** - knowledge, thinking & facts (D1-3)
- **Functional learning** - application of knowledge, thinking & facts (F1-3)
- **Professional and transferable skills and behaviours** (P1-3)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

	Learning Outcome	Level	Graduate Attribute
D1	Critically analyse a range of short fiction, poetry, novel & life writing as a foundation for your creative work.	7	Diversity of perspective
D2	Analyse contexts of creative writing relevant to current literary debates.	7	Political in the personal
D3	Appraise current publishing trends across a range of genres.	7	Diversity of perspective
F1	Compose original creative writing with clear and critical positionality within a selected genre.	7	Responsible agency
F2	Write a critical reflection of your own creative work.	7	Responsible agency
F3	Produce literary analysis and feedback on others' writing.	7	Collaboration

	Learning Outcome	Level	Graduate Attribute
P1	Articulate a practical framework through which you will sustain your own creative life.	7	Responsible agency
P2	Plan your creative work informed by and in concert with publishing and industry expectations.	7	Collaboration
P3	Examine current genre and publishing industry trends and their impact on creative practice.	7	Diversity of perspective

7. Programme Structure

For Undergraduate programmes (UG), each level must amount to at least **120 CATS** (60 ECTS).

Postgraduate (PGT) programmes must amount to at least 180 CATS (90ECTS), with exception to interim exit awards.

Programmes are staged in **Phases**, where each Phase relates to an exit award.

Compulsory modules must be taken by all students.

Option modules – you must choose one or more of the options available to this programme at this level and point. The option modules available from this list may vary from year to year, depending on student numbers and staff availability. Selection takes place during your studies, not before.

Programme structure notes (where relevant):

You will typically study one 15 credit module before moving onto the next. Modules within a phase may be taken in any sequence, but there are expectations of valid module and assessment attempts before being able to progress to the next phase.

Phase 1 (PT)

Module Name	Code	Credit	Level	Type	Term	Year PT	Pathway
Workshop in Short Fiction	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	n/a
Workshop in the Novel	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	n/a
Workshop in Life Writing	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	n/a
Workshop in Poetry	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	n/a

Phase 2 (PT)

Module Name	Module Code	Credit	Level	Module Type	Term	Year PT	Pathway
Writing Development	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	n/a
Contemporary Debates in Literature	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	n/a
Developing a Creative Life	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	n/a
Publishing	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	n/a

Phase 3 (PT)

Module Name	Module Code	Credit	Level	Module Type	Term	Year PT	Pathway
Final Project	TBC	60	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	n/a

8. Learning, Teaching & Assessment

Learning & Teaching methods

Teaching will be via a range of formats to be as relevant as possible to the topic and learning outcomes. This may be through VLE content including recorded lectures, curated readings, structured formative activities, and forum discussions . It may have a mix of synchronous webinars and online activities, designed to give you the best learning experience and to make the most out of your learning experience. You are expected to attend all of your timetabled learning activities.

Specifically, this programme will be taught in the following ways:

The teaching and learning strategy for the MA Creative Writing programme is designed to support your independent, flexible engagement within an online, predominantly asynchronous environment. Structured weekly topics provide a clear scaffold for learning, combining a range of materials and activities that may include short lecture videos, readings, and interactive tasks.

Discussion forums and reflective prompts create opportunities for dialogue, peer exchange, and the development of a learning community in the online space. This approach prioritises a diverse range of engagement opportunities, while ensuring consistent academic support, clear learning development, interaction, and reflection.

Assessment modes and approaches

You will be assessed in a range of ways throughout your course. These will be both Formative (for feedback and development), and Summative (required to pass and progress to the next level). Summative assessments are compulsory.

Feedback is a crucial part of your learning and development in this programme. You will receive feedback both on your Formative (work in progress) tasks/assessments, and your Summative (graded) assessments. This feedback will help the assessment to be a part of your learning, not just a test. It may be verbal, written or video based. Please engage with this feedback to improve your future work.

Specifically, this programme will be assessed in the following ways:

On MA Creative Writing, for each module, there is one major summative assessment due in Week 8. Some units include smaller practice tasks completed over several weeks but also submitted in Week 8. Most assessments are individual coursework, though less weighted tasks may involve group presentations. A formative, ungraded assessment is due mid-module to monitor progress and provide tutor feedback.

Assessment diet (number of assessments for compulsory modules)

Mode	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Total
Coursework	0	0	0	0	5	5
Exam	0	0	0	0	0	0
Live	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portfolio (multi-modal)	0	0	0	0	1	1
Practical / multimedia	0	0	0	0	2	2
Written	0	0	0	0	1	1
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0	9	9
Of which...	Individual:	9	Group:	0		

9. Other information

Item	Information
a) Assessment regulations	https://www.gold.ac.uk/gam/taught-programmes/assessment/
b) Placement opportunities	N/A
c) Programme-specific requirements	N/A
d) Programme specific costs and resources	A laptop with camera and audio interface.
e) Employability and potential career opportunities	This programme welcomes students from academic, publishing, education, literary or other associated backgrounds, as well as those with an emerging interest in writing. It develops critical, creative, and analytical thinking through debates, discussions, and portfolio assignments that enhance adaptability, intercultural awareness, and

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	digital proficiency. You will gain entrepreneurial insight into the intersection of creative and commercial aspects of creative writing, exploring industry roles and marketing strategies while networking with experts. Interpersonal skills are fostered through collaborative online activities that promote empathy and diplomacy, while intrapersonal skills such as planning, organisation, and self-reflection are strengthened through independent research tasks and the Final Project. The programme also builds confidence in presenting ideas across oral, written, and digital formats, equipping graduates with high-level transferable skills for careers in academia, teaching, publishing, writing and multiple associated professions. Various networking, including peer-to-peer, will be encouraged through discussion forums, tutorials and webinar activities.

10. Academic support

There is a range of support available to you to give you the best possible chance of success in this programme.

Please see your tutors and student portal/VLE for details of what's available and how to access this support.

11. Curriculum map

Programme Learning Outcomes assessed by each module:

Module name	Code	Type	D1	D2	D3	F1	F2	F3	P1	P2	P3
Workshop in Short Fiction	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒	☒
Workshop in the Novel	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒	☒
Workshop in Life Writing	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒	☒
Workshop in Poetry	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒	☒
Writing Development	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒	☒
Contemporary Debates in Literature	TBC	Compulsory	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒
Developing a Creative Life	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒
Publishing	TBC	Compulsory	☐	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒	☒	☒
Final Project	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☒