LITOWITZ CREATIVE WRITING GRADUATE PROGRAM

https://www.english.northwestern.edu/graduate/mfa-ma-program/

Degree Types: MFA+MA

This new, fully-funded MFA+MA in Creative Writing and English program offers intimate classes, the opportunity to pursue both creative and critical writing, and close mentorship by renowned faculty in poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction. Our three-year curriculum gives students time to deepen both their creative writing and their study of literature. Students will receive support for three academic years, and two summers, to complete both degrees – an MFA in Creative Writing and an MA in English.

Drawing on innovative scholarship, deep immersion in process, and cross-pollination between critical and creative texts, students will complete book-length thesis projects of their own design, either within or across genres, and a substantial essay on literary texts. The program’s small size and attentive faculty will develop students’ sense of literary context, while encouraging them to pursue the distinctiveness of their projects.

In addition to their studies, students will be guided in the teaching of creative writing and, through summer editorial work at TriQuarterly.org, the editing of a literary journal.

Students will pursue their work on our beautiful Evanston campus, amid artists, filmmakers, scholars and public intellectuals, with easy access to the vibrant literary arts scene of Chicago.

Degrees Offered

- Litowitz Creative Writing Graduate Program MFA+MA (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/tgs/creative-writing-english/creative-writing-english-mfa-ma)

Creative Writing and English Courses

ENGLISH 302-0 History of the English Language (1 Unit)
The English language from the earliest times to today.  
Historical Studies Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro - See Rules (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 310-0 Studies in Literary Genres (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 311-0 Studies in Poetry (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 312-0 Studies in Drama (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 313-0 Studies in Fiction (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 320-0 Medieval English Literature (1 Unit)
Representative works in their intellectual and cultural contexts.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 322-0 Medieval Drama (1 Unit)
Study of 15th century English mystery cycles, miracle plays, and morality plays in their cultural context.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 323-1 Chaucer (1 Unit)
"The Canterbury Tales."  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 323-2 Chaucer (1 Unit)
"Troilus and Criseyde" and other works.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 324-0 Studies in Medieval Literature (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 331-0 Renaissance Poetry (1 Unit)
English poetry from the Elizabethan period to 1660.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 332-0 Renaissance Drama (1 Unit)
A survey of English drama (1590-1630) and its cultural contexts.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 334-1 Shakespeare (1 Unit)
Principal plays up to 1600.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 334-2 Shakespeare (1 Unit)
Principal plays after 1600.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 335-0 Milton (1 Unit)
Milton’s poetry, with those parts of his prose that illuminate his poetical and intellectual development.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 338-0 Studies in Renaissance Literature (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 339-0 Special Topics in Shakespeare (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 340-0 Restoration and 18th Century Literature (1 Unit)
Representative works in their intellectual and cultural contexts.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 341-0 Restoration and 18th Century Poetry (1 Unit)
Dryden, Pope, and other poets of the period 1660-1744.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 342-0 Restoration and 18th Century Drama (1 Unit)
English drama from 1660 to the end of the 18th century.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 344-0 18th-Century Fiction (1 Unit)
Writers such as Defoe, Richardson, Smollett, Fielding, Sterne, Burney, Radcliffe, and Austen. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 348-0 Studies in Restoration and 18th-Century Literature (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 350-0 19th-Century British Literature (1 Unit)
Representative works in their intellectual and cultural contexts.  
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area
ENGLISH 351-0 Romantic Poetry (1 Unit)
Writers such as Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, and Keats.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 353-0 Studies in Romantic Literature (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 356-0 Victorian Poetry (1 Unit)
The principal British poets from Tennyson to Hopkins.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 357-0 19th-Century British Fiction (1 Unit)
Representative novels written between 1800 and 1900.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 358-0 Dickens (1 Unit)
Representative works of Charles Dickens.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 359-0 Studies in Victorian Literature (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 360-0 20th-Century British and American Literature (1 Unit)
Representative works in their intellectual and cultural contexts.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 361-1 20th-Century Poetry (1 Unit)
First Quarter: Major British poets such as Yeats, Eliot, and Auden.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 361-2 20th-Century Poetry (1 Unit)
Second Quarter: Major American poets from Frost and Robinson to Crane.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 361-3 20th Century Poetry (1 Unit)
Third Quarter: British and American poetry since World War II.

ENGLISH 363-1 20th-Century Fiction (1 Unit)
Major British novelists from Conrad to World War II.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 363-2 20th Century Fiction (1 Unit)
Major American novelists from James to World War II.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 365-0 Studies in Postcolonial Literature (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 366-0 Studies in African American Literature (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 367-0 Postwar British Fiction (1 Unit)
Representative British novels since 1945.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 368-0 Studies in 20th-Century Literature (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 369-0 Studies in African Literature (1 Unit)
20th-century African literature in English. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 370-0 American Literature Before 1914 (1 Unit)
Representative works in their intellectual and cultural contexts.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 371-0 American Novel (1 Unit)
Writers such as Cooper, Alcott, Chopin, Hawthorne, Melville, Poe, Twain, James, Howells, Crane, Dreiser, and Wharton. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 372-0 American Poetry (1 Unit)
Writers such as Freneau, Bradstreet, Bryant, Poe, Whitman, Dickinson, Robinson, and Frost. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 374-0 Topics in Native American and Indigenous Literatures (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 377-0 Studies in African American Literature (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 378-0 Studies in American Literature (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 379-0 Special Topics in Theory (1 Unit)
Topics in theory and criticism related to the study of literature and culture. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 380-0 Topics in Combined Studies (1 Unit)
Special topics in literature and related disciplines. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 381-0 Studies in Literature and Commerce (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 382-0 Topics in Theory and Criticism (1 Unit)
Topics in theory and criticism related to the study of literature and culture. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 383-0 Special Topics in Theory (1 Unit)
Topics in theory and criticism related to the study of literature and culture. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 385-0 Topics in Combined Studies (1 Unit)
Special topics in literature and related disciplines. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 386-0 Studies in Literature and Film (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 387-0 Topics in Combined Studies (1 Unit)
Special topics in literature and related disciplines. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 388-0 Studies in Literature and Film (1 Unit)
Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 389-0 Special Topics in Theory (1 Unit)
Topics in theory and criticism related to the study of literature and culture. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic.
Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

ENGLISH 397-0 Research Seminar for Literature Majors (1 Unit)
For juniors and seniors. Topics vary. Students research and complete an independent term paper related to the topic of the seminar.

ENGLISH 403-0 Writers' Studies in Literature (1 Unit)
Writers' Studies in Literature. Students will learn about literature from a writer's perspective through close reading, as well as contextualization through generic, and thematic and formal lineage. Students will begin to see literature as a "body of enacted criticism" in a way that is essential to the program's interdisciplinary foundation and to their own development as writers. These courses will be taught by either creative writing faculty or literature faculty, with at least one major assignment in each course relying on research and critical writing.

ENGLISH 410-0 Introduction to Graduate Study (1 Unit)
Principles, techniques, and consequences of representative modes of literary inquiry exemplified in works of contemporary scholarship and criticism. Required of Ph.D. students.

ENGLISH 411-0 Studies in Poetry (1 Unit)
Content varies. Topics may include prosody or other formal aspects of poetry; comparative study of poems from different historical periods; consideration of poetics and the relationship of poetry to other cultural activities.

ENGLISH 412-0 Studies in Drama (1 Unit)
Content varies. Samples: theories of comedy; the history play.

ENGLISH 413-0 Studies in the Novel (1 Unit)
Content varies. Samples: Richardson and Fielding; Gothic fiction; Dickens; theory of the novel from James to Kermode.

ENGLISH 422-0 Studies in Medieval Literature (1 Unit)
Literature of the medieval period, including, but not necessarily restricted to, literature written in Middle English.

**ENGLISH 431-0 Studies in 16Th Century Literature (1 Unit)**
Content varies. Samples: Elizabethan romance; Spenser; Sidney.

**ENGLISH 434-0 Studies in Shakespeare (1 Unit)**

**ENGLISH 435-0 Studies in 17Th Century Literature (1 Unit)**
Content varies. Samples: Donne's poetry; Milton.

**ENGLISH 441-0 18Th Cent Lit (1 Unit)**
Content varies. Samples: Swift, Blake, and sensibility from Rousseau to Austen.

**ENGLISH 451-0 Studies in Romantic Literature (1 Unit)**
Content varies. Samples: the long poem in the Romantic period; Byron and the Byronic.

**ENGLISH 455-0 Studies in Victorian Literature (1 Unit)**
Content varies. Samples: Victorian poetics; biography and autobiography; Anglo-American literary relationships.

**ENGLISH 461-0 Studies in Contemporary Literature (1 Unit)**
Content varies. Samples: James Joyce; experiments in fiction.

**ENGLISH 465-0 Studies in Colonial & Postcolonial Lit (1 Unit)**
Content varies. Colonial and postcolonial literatures of Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and other formerly colonized cultures, with attention to theoretical accounts of colonial and postcolonial culture.

**ENGLISH 471-0 Studies in American Literature (1 Unit)**
Content varies. Samples: Henry James; historical backgrounds of colonial literature; Whitman.

**ENGLISH 481-0 Studies in Literary Theory and Criticism (1 Unit)**
Topics in literary theory and theories related to the study of Anglophone literature and culture, focusing on issues of methodology and interpretation. Content varies.

**ENGLISH 490-0 Independent Reading (1 Unit)**
Permission of department required. May be repeated for credit.

**ENGLISH 491-0 Editorial Practicum (0 Unit)**
Summer work as an editorial assistant for TriQuarterly Online. Open to students in the Litowitz Creative Writing Graduate Program, MFA+MA.

**ENGLISH 493-0 Elements of Craft (1 Unit)**
A cross-genre seminar-based workshop for first-year MFA+MA students. This course will prepare students for the dual-degree program and teach them the "language of workshop" while developing their critical and creative writing skills.

**ENGLISH 494-0 Mapping the MFA Thesis (1 Unit)**
The Long Form-MFA cross-genre workshop dedicated to organizing the MFA thesis.

**ENGLISH 495-0 Cross-Genre Creative Writing Workshop (1 Unit)**
Students will practice creative writing across genres and will examine the ways that genres overlap, influence and inform one another.

**ENGLISH 496-0 MFA Poetry Workshop (1 Unit)**
A graduate level poetry workshop for MFA+MA students. Open to other university graduate students by application.

**ENGLISH 497-0 MFA Fiction Workshop (1 Unit)**
A graduate level fiction workshop for MFA+MA students. Open to other university graduate students by application.

**ENGLISH 498-0 MFA Creative Nonfiction Workshop (1 Unit)**
A graduate level creative nonfiction workshop for MFA+MA students. Open to other university graduate students by application.

**ENGLISH 499-0 Independent Study (1 Unit)**
Permission of instructor and department required. May be repeated for credit.

**ENGLISH 505-0 Research Development Seminar (1 Unit)**
Third year doctoral students in the English department will be required to take this class in which they will draft a doctoral prospectus and an application for a research grant.

**ENGLISH 520-0 Writing for Publication (1 Unit)**
English department students in candidacy will develop professional skills related to writing for publication, whether for an academic or a broader public audience.

**ENGLISH 570-0 Seminar in Teaching Composition (1 Unit)**
An introduction to theories, practices and controversies in the teaching of writing in colleges and universities, within the context of various definitions of literacy in American culture.

**ENGLISH 571-0 Teaching Creative Writing (1 Unit)**
All MFA+MA students will take this specially designed pedagogy course during their first year. Students will study the history and models of teaching for Creative Writing programs. Students will design creative writing courses, set clear, achievable learning objectives, draft syllabi, generate exercises, and select reading material for introductory courses in poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction.

**ENGLISH 590-0 Research (1-3 Units)**
SEE DEPT FOR SECTION AND PERMISSION NUMBERS- Independent investigation of selected problems pertaining to thesis or dissertation. May be repeated for credit.

**ENGLISH 591-0 MFA Thesis Tutorial (1-3 Units)**
Registration for MFA+MA students writing an MFA Thesis project.