

CREATIVE WRITING, BFA

Banner Code: LA-BFA-CW

4200 Horizon Hall
Fairfax Campus

Website: creativewriting.gmu.edu/programs/la-bfa-cw

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing is one of only thirty BFAs in creative writing available nationwide. With three concentrations to choose from (fiction, poetry, nonfiction), the BFA is structured to give students ample opportunity to learn to write and think creatively while also developing the vocational writing skills that are desperately needed in the workplace. All students pursuing a BFA are strongly advised to complete on-site workplace internships in writing-intensive environments, and finish the degree with a submission of a portfolio of work as part of a final-semester capstone course, with final approval from the faculty.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

Acceptance into the program is competitive. Admission to the university does not guarantee admission to the BFA program.

After acceptance to Mason, students who wish to pursue a major in creative writing should inform the academic coordinator in the English department or the director of the creative writing program of their interest in the program and should seek evaluation of any prior coursework as well as guidance on courses to take and the sequence in which to take them. In the program, students enroll in a series of courses intended to introduce them to all forms of creative writing, and then they select a core set of courses built around a specialization in fiction, nonfiction or poetry, along with upper-level writing, literature and advanced studies courses.

Students planning to enter the BFA program are initially designated as "pre-BFA" until they have successfully completed the requirements for full admission. Full admission requires a minimum of three creative writing courses successfully completed with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 or higher in those courses. Alternatively, students who have taken creative writing courses at another institution or in their early undergraduate coursework at Mason may gain full admission status to the BFA program on the strength of recommendations from the instructors in those courses, subject to departmental approval, which is obtained from the Mason creative writing faculty and the director of the creative writing program.

A student admitted to the university and intending to enter the BFA program may designate a major in English and complete English major courses before attempting to move into admitted BFA status. Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to full BFA status.

Policies

For policies governing all undergraduate degrees, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate-policies/>).

Students pursuing this degree must complete 45 credits (15 courses) in English/Linguistics beyond ENGH 300 Cover to Cover (not

including ENGH 302 Advanced Composition (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)) with a minimum GPA of 2.00.

At the discretion of the department, transfer students may substitute transferred lower level creative writing classes for some BFA requirements.

With permission of the department, BFA students may select a substitute for concentration required coursework from the list of courses approved for the writing or literature elective requirement. Substitutions must be justified as specifically relevant to the student's study. Concentration substitutions will not satisfy more than one requirement within the major.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

Students will complete 21 credits of BFA core requirements, 12 credits from one of 3 concentrations, and 12 credits in English department requirements. 300-level courses in English and linguistics teach the foundational principles for a field of study, include courses of broad scope, and provide an introduction to a genre, literary period, or methodology. 400-level courses in English and linguistics provide an in-depth approach to a field of study, a single genre, literary period, or methodology. They include special topics classes and English honors classes. Some 400-level courses require ENGH 305 Dimensions of Writing and Literature (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) as a prerequisite.

Students should consult with an English department advisor to learn ways in which the Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements can also satisfy college-level requirements or the BFA.

Core Courses in the Major

Code	Title	Credits
ENGH 301	The Fields of English	3
ENGH 305	Dimensions of Writing and Literature (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ENGH 377	Digital Creative Writing	3
ENGH 396	Introduction to Creative Writing (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ENGH 495	Capstone and Thesis (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
Total Credits		15

English Department Requirements Literature before 1800

Code	Title	Credits
Select one course from the following:		3
ENGH 320	Literature of the Middle Ages	

ENGH 321	English Poetry and Prose of the 16th Century
ENGH 322	Introduction to Shakespeare
ENGH 323	Studies in Shakespeare
ENGH 324	English Renaissance Drama
ENGH 325	English Poetry and Prose of the 17th Century
ENGH 330	Augustan Age: 1660-1745
ENGH 331	Age of Sensibility: 1745-1800
ENGH 332	Restoration and 18th Century Drama
ENGH 333	British Novel of the 18th Century
ENGH 340	Early American Literature
ENGH 421	Topics in Medieval and Renaissance Literature
ENGH 422	Chaucer
ENGH 428	Milton
Total Credits	3

Literature before 1915

Code	Title	Credits
Select one course from the following:		
ENGH 334	British Poetry of the Romantic Period	3
ENGH 335	Prose and Poetry of the Victorian Period	
ENGH 336	British Novel of the 19th Century	
ENGH 341	Literature of the American Renaissance	
ENGH 342	Post-Civil War American Literature, 1865-1920	
ENGH 343	Development of the American Novel to 1914	
ENGH 348	Beginnings of African American Literature Through 1865	
ENGH 349	African American Literature: Reconstruction to 1903	
ENGH 360	Continental Fiction, 1770-1880	
ENGH 361	Continental Fiction, 1880-1950	
A second course from literature before 1800 list above		
Total Credits		3

Minority, Folkloric, or Popular Literary and Cultural Traditions

Code	Title	Credits
Select one course from the following:		
ENGH 310	Topics: Women and Literature	3
ENGH 315	Folklore and Folklife (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
ENGH 319	Popular Culture	
ENGH 348	Beginnings of African American Literature Through 1865	
ENGH 349	African American Literature: Reconstruction to 1903	
ENGH 350	African American Literature Through 1946	
ENGH 351	Contemporary African American Literature	
ENGH 352	Topics in Ethnic American Literature	
ENGH 362	Global Voices (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	

ENGH 366	The Idea of a World Literature (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
ENGH 367	World Literatures in English
ENGH 412	Topics in Folklore Studies
ENGH 414	Folklore and the Supernatural
ENGH 415	Folk Art and Folk Artists
ENGH 416	Folklore and Migration
ENGH 417	RS: Topics in Folklore Research (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
ENGH 419	Topics in Popular Literature
ENGH 451	Science Fiction
ENGH 452	Critical Study of Children's Literature
ENGH 484	RS: Writing Ethnography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
Total Credits	3

Writing or Literature Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Select one course from the following:		
Additional Writing Courses		
ENGH 388	Professional and Technical Writing	3
ENGH 402	Honors Independent Study	
ENGH 459	Internship	
ENGH 484	RS: Writing Ethnography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
ENGH 492	Advanced Fiction Writing Workshop	
ENGH 493	Advanced Workshop in Nonfiction	
ENGH 494	Advanced Poetry Writing Workshop	
ENGH 497	Topics in Creative Writing	
ENGH 499	Independent Study	
ENGH 505	Document Design	
Courses in Contemporary Literature		
ENGH 315	Folklore and Folklife (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
ENGH 319	Popular Culture	
ENGH 351	Contemporary African American Literature	
ENGH 353	Twentieth-Century Poetry	
ENGH 354	Twentieth-Century Fiction	
ENGH 368	Modern Drama	
ENGH 412	Topics in Folklore Studies	
ENGH 414	Folklore and the Supernatural	
ENGH 415	Folk Art and Folk Artists	
ENGH 419	Topics in Popular Literature	
ENGH 451	Science Fiction	
ENGH 452	Critical Study of Children's Literature	
ENGH 453	Topics in Fiction	
ENGH 454	Topics in Poetry	
ENGH 455	Topics in Drama	
ENGH 456	Topics in Literary Nonfiction (for fiction and poetry concentrators only)	
Course in Writing for other Arts		

AVT 395	Writing for Artists (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
THR 380	Playwriting I
THR 381	Playwriting II
THR 382	Screenplay Workshop
THR 480	Advanced Playwriting

Total Credits 3

Required Workshop Courses

The workshops are in the two areas outside of the chosen concentration. The remaining workshop is included as part of the concentration requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 6 credits from the following:		
ENGH 397	Poetry Writing	6
ENGH 398	Fiction Writing	
ENGH 399	Creative Nonfiction Writing	

Total Credits 6

Concentrations in the Major

Students must complete one of the following concentrations.

Available Concentrations

- Concentration in Fiction (FIC)
- Concentration in Nonfiction (NFIC)
- Concentration in Poetry (POE)

Concentration in Fiction (FIC)

Code	Title	Credits
ENGH 398	Fiction Writing	3
ENGH 392	Forms of Fiction	3
ENGH 355	Contemporary Fiction	3
ENGH 492	Advanced Fiction Writing Workshop	3

Total Credits 12

Concentration in Nonfiction (NFIC)

Code	Title	Credits
ENGH 399	Creative Nonfiction Writing	3
ENGH 393	Forms of Nonfiction	3
ENGH 456	Topics in Literary Nonfiction	3
ENGH 493	Advanced Workshop in Nonfiction	3

Total Credits 12

Concentration in Poetry (POE)

Code	Title	Credits
ENGH 397	Poetry Writing	3
ENGH 391	Forms of Poetry	3
ENGH 356	Contemporary Poetry	3
ENGH 494	Advanced Poetry Writing Workshop	3

Total Credits 12

Writing-Intensive Requirement

The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated "writing intensive" in their majors at the 300 level or above. Students majoring in creative writing may fulfill this requirement by

successfully completing ENGH 305 Dimensions of Writing and Literature (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>).

Upper Level Requirement

Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation requirements.

Additional Electives

Any remaining credits may be completed with elective courses to bring the degree total to 120.

College Level Requirements for the BA Degree

In addition to the Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) program, students pursuing a BA degree must complete the coursework below. Except where expressly prohibited, a course used to fulfill a college level requirement may also be used simultaneously to satisfy other requirements (Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements or requirements for the major).

Philosophy or Religious Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits from the following:		
PHIL (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/phil/) ¹		3
RELI (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/reli/)		

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Note that the following courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement:

- PHIL 323 Classical Western Political Theory
- PHIL 324 Modern Western Political Theory
- PHIL 327 Contemporary Western Political Theory
- PHIL 393 Humanities College to Career
- PHIL 460 Senior Seminar in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Additionally, PHIL 253, RELI 235, RELI 333, and RELI 339 cannot be used to fulfill both the philosophy/religious studies requirement and the Mason Core literature (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature>) requirement.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits of social and behavioral sciences from the following (additional to the Mason Core social and behavioral sciences requirement) ¹		

ANTH (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/anth/)		
CRIM (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/crim/)		
ECON (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/econ/)		
GOVT (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/govt/)		
HIST (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/hist/) ²		
LING (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/ling/)		
PSYC (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/psyc/)		
SOCI (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/soci/)		

Or choose from the following GGS courses:

GGS 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGS 103	Human Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

GGG 110	Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies
GGG 301	Political Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGG 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGG 304	Population Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGG 305	Economic Geography
GGG 306	Urban Geography
GGG 315	Geography of the United States
GGG 316	Geography of Latin America
GGG 320	Geography of Europe
GGG 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East
GGG 326	Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia
GGG 357	Urban Planning
GGG 380	Geography of Virginia

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The two courses used to fulfill the combined college and Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements must be from different disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences.

2

HIST 100 and HIST 125 may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Foreign Language

Code	Title	Credits
Intermediate-level proficiency in one foreign language, fulfilled by: ¹		
Completing 3 credits in a foreign language numbered 202 (or higher level courses taught in the language) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/modern-classical-languages/)		
Or achieving a satisfactory score on an approved proficiency test		
Or completing the following ASL three course sequence:		
EDSE 115	American Sign Language (ASL) I	
EDSE 116	American Sign Language (ASL) II	
EDSE 219	American Sign Language (ASL) III	

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Students who are already proficient in a second language may be eligible for a waiver of this requirement. Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/>).

Non-Western Culture

Select 3 credits of an approved course in the study of a non-Western culture (additional to the Mason Core requirement in global understanding)

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits (additional to Mason Core Global Understanding requirement) ¹		

ANTH 114	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 300	Civilizations	3
ANTH 302	Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 307	Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 308	Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 309	Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 313	Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 314	Zombies	3
ANTH 317	East Asian Cultures	3
ANTH 330	Peoples and Cultures of Selected Regions: Non-Western	3
ANTH 332	Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 381	Medical Anthropology	3
ANTH 396	Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARAB 360	Topics in Arabic Cultural Production	3
ARAB 365	Black and Minority Cultures in Arabic Literature (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARAB 420	Survey of Arabic Literature	3
ARAB 440	Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 203	Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 204	Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 206	Survey of African Art (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 317	The Black Pharaohs: Art and Archaeology of Ancient Nubia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 318	Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt	3
ARTH 319	Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 320	Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 382	Arts of India (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 383	Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3

ARTH 384	Arts of China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 281	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 385	Arts of Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 282	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 482	RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 326	Stalinism	3
CHIN 318	Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 327	The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II	3
CHIN 320	Contemporary Chinese Film	3	HIST 328	Rise of Russia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
CHIN 325	Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 329	Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
CHIN 470	Special Topics in Chinese Studies	3	HIST 353	History of Traditional China	3
DANC 118	Global Dance Perspectives I (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 354	Modern China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 356	Modern Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 357	Postwar Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
FREN 454	Topics in Caribbean Francophone Literature and Culture	3	HIST 358	Post-1949 China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GGG 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 360	History of South Africa (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GGG 316	Geography of Latin America	3	HIST 364	Revolution in Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GGG 317	Geography of China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 365	Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GGG 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East	3	HIST 366	Comparative Slavery	3
GGG 399	Select Topics in GGS	3	HIST 377	The Vietnam War (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GOVT 332	Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3	HIST 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GOVT 333	Politics of East Asia	3	HIST 387	Topics in Global History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3-6
GOVT 338	Politics of Eurasia	3	HIST 461	Arab-Israeli Conflict	3
GOVT 340	Central Asian Politics	3	HIST 462	Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GOVT 341	Chinese Foreign Policy	3	HIST 465	The Middle East in the 20th Century	3
GOVT 345	Islam and Politics	3	JAPA 310	Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
GOVT 433	Political Economy of East Asia	3	JAPA 340	Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 251	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	JAPA 380	Japan in Motion	3
HIST 252	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	KORE 300	Korean Culture and Society	3
HIST 261	Survey of African History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	KORE 320	Korean Popular Culture in a Global World	3
HIST 262	Survey of African History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	KORE 385	Introduction to Korean Linguistics	3
HIST 271	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	MUSI 103	Musics of the World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 272	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3			

RELI 211	Introduction to Religions of the "West" (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
RELI 212	Introduction to Religions of Asia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
RELI 312	Islam (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
RELI 313	Hinduism (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
RELI 314	Chinese Philosophies and Religious Traditions	3
RELI 315	Buddhism (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
RELI 317	Daoism	3
RELI 318	Korean Philosophy and Religions	3
RELI 338	Qur'an and Hadith	3
RELI 342	Comparative Study of Mysticism	3
RELI 344	Muhammad: Life and Legacy	3
RELI 358	Islamic Thought (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
RELI 367	Islamic Law, Society, and Ethics	3
RELI 368	Islam, Democracy, and Human Rights (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
RELI 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
RELI 490	Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
RUSS 354	Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
WMST 407	Transnational Sexualities	3

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A course used to fulfill the Mason Core global understanding (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global>) requirement may not be simultaneously used to satisfy this college-level requirement. A course used to fulfill this requirement may be used simultaneously to fulfill any other requirements (Mason Core requirements, college-level requirements, or requirements for the major). Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/>).

Mason Core

Some Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements.

Students who have completed the following credentials are eligible for a waiver of the Foundation and Exploration (lower level) requirement categories. The Integration category (upper level) is not waived under

this policy. See Admissions (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-policies/#transfertext>) for more information.

- VCCS Uniform Certificate of General Studies
- VCCS or Richard Bland Associate of Science (A.S.), Associate of Arts (A.A.), Associate of Arts and Sciences (A.A.&S.), or Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.)

Code	Title	Credits
Foundation Requirements		
	Written Communication (lower-level) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written)	3
	Oral Communication (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#oral)	3
	Quantitative Reasoning (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#quantitative)	3
	Information Technology and Computing (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#information-technology)	3
Exploration Requirements		
	Arts (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#arts)	3
	Global Contexts (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-contexts)	3
	Global History (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-history)	3
	Literature (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature)	3
	Natural Science (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science)	7
	Social and Behavioral Sciences (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#social-behavioral-science)	3
	Just Societies (optional) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#justsocieties) ¹	
Integration Requirements		
	Written Communication (upper-level) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written)	3
	Writing Intensive (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#wi) ²	3
	Mason Apex (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#apex) ³	3
Total Credits		40

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In addition to covering content related to the designated category, Exploration level courses marked with a *Just Societies* "flag" are specifically designed to help students learn how to interact effectively with others from all walks of life, including those with backgrounds and beliefs that differ from their own. Courses marked with the Just Societies flag are available for students starting in Fall 2024. Students admitted prior to the Fall of 2025 are not required to take courses with a Just Societies flag but may wish to do so to increase their knowledge and skills in this important area. Students interested in this approach to completing their Mason Core Exploration Requirements should work closely with their advisor to identify the appropriate Just Societies-flagged courses.

2

Most programs include the writing-intensive course designated for the major as part of the major requirements; this course is therefore not counted towards the total required for Mason Core.

3

Minimum 3 credits required.

4-Year Plan

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Sample Plan of Study

A sample four year graduation plan and degree planning worksheet can be found at <https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets> (<https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets/>). The plan is a recommended sequencing of courses based on prerequisites and scheduling. This may not fit every student's needs and is a guideline, not a requirement. Students should confirm major requirements with their academic advisor each semester and with their PatriotWeb Degree Evaluation to ensure they enroll in the proper courses and are on track to graduate.

Honors

Honors in the Major

Highly qualified students in the BFA in Creative Writing program may pursue advanced work leading to graduation with honors in the major. To graduate with honors in the major, students must complete a two-course honors sequence and receive a minimum GPA of 3.50 in all courses counted toward the major and, separately, a minimum GPA of 3.50 in their honors courses. Honors courses may simultaneously satisfy concentration and distribution requirements in the major.

Students may satisfy the honors course sequence in one of the following ways:

- BFA students may take two sections of ENGH 400 Honors Seminar
- BFA students may take one section of ENGH 400 Honors Seminar and ENGH 401 RS: Honors Thesis Writing Seminar (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)

BFA students may write a creative honors thesis in ENGH 401 RS: Honors Thesis Writing Seminar (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>). BFA students may substitute ENGH 401 (if they write a creative honors thesis) for ENGH 495 Capstone and Thesis (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>).

Students interested in pursuing honors in the major should consult the English Department (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/english/>) for more information.

Program Outcomes

Program Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate a broad understanding of forms and elements of craft used by published writers and apply that knowledge to their own work.
2. Students will synthesize creative written work, critical analyses, artist statements, and professional queries into a dynamic final portfolio.
3. Students will develop an individual writing practice that includes creation/revision as well as an ability to comment on peers' work critically and productively.
4. Students will gain knowledge of various career paths available to them as well as of the publishing landscape.

5. Students will demonstrate an advanced knowledge of and proficiency in chosen genre.

Accelerated Master's

The accelerated master's program listed below specifies the BFA in creative writing as a feeder degree for its program. It is important to note, however, that many accelerated master's programs are available for any bachelor's degree at Mason. See the full list of degrees (http://catalog.gmu.edu/programs/#filter=filter_24) with accelerated programs at George Mason. In addition, as a student with a BFA in creative writing you may be particularly interested in the accelerated (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/history-art/art-history-ma/#acceleratedmasterstext>) MA in English with a concentration in linguistics. (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/english/english-ma/#acceleratedmasterstext>)

English, BA or Creative Writing, BFA/ Curriculum and Instruction, Accelerated MEd (Secondary Education English Concentration)

Overview

Highly-qualified Mason undergraduates may be admitted to the bachelor's/accelerated master's option and obtain a BA in English (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/english/english-ba/>) or a BFA in Creative Writing and an MEd in Curriculum and Instruction (Secondary Education English concentration) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/curriculum-instruction-med/>) in an accelerated time-frame after satisfactory completion of a minimum of 143 credits.

See AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degree (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>) for policies related to this program.

This accelerated option is offered jointly by the Department of English (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/english/>) and the School of Education (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/>).

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#text>).

BAM Pathway Admission Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions Policies (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>) and Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degree (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>) policies. For information specific to this accelerated master's program, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<https://cehd.gmu.edu/bachelors-accelerated-masters-program/>).

Students will be considered for admission into the BAM Pathway after completion of a minimum of 60 credits, and additional unit-specific criteria.

Students who are accepted into the BAM Pathway will be allowed to register for graduate level courses after successful completion of a minimum of 75 undergraduate credits and course-specific pre-requisites.

Accelerated Master's Admission Requirements

Students already admitted in the BAM Pathway will be admitted to the MEd program, if they have met the following criteria, as verified on the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition form:

- 3.0 overall GPA
- Completion of specific undergraduate coursework
- Successfully meeting Mason's requirements for undergraduate degree conferral (graduation) and completing the application for graduation.

Accelerated Pathway Requirements

To maintain the integrity and quality of both the undergraduate and graduate degree programs, undergraduate students interested in taking graduate courses must choose from the following which can be taken as Advanced Standing or Reserve Graduate credit (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#text>) (to be determined by the student and their advisor):

Code	Title	Credits
EDRD 619	Disciplinary Literacy	3
SEED 502	Young Adult Literature in Multicultural Settings	3
SEED 522	Foundations of Secondary Education	3
SEED 540	Human Development and Learning: Secondary Education	3
SEED 569	Teaching English in the Secondary School	3
SEED 669	Advanced Methods of Teaching English in the Secondary School	3

SEED approved elective (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/seed/>)

For more detailed information on coursework and timeline requirements, see AP6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degree (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>) policies.