

No one asks if (Coach) Dean Smith  
ruined Michael Jordan.

–Doris Betts

Novelist David Bradley tells a story about going running with a brain surgeon. As they rounded the track, the surgeon stopped to tie his shoe. Looking up at Bradley, he said, “You know, I’m thinking next year I’ll rent that cabin and write me that novel.” Another lap, in silence, before Bradley said, “You know, I’m thinking next year I’ll rent the fifth floor of the hospital and do me that surgery.”

Athletes, even those like Michael Jordan who define the game, are coached; singers learn to breathe; a jittery swan waiting to take the stage in a 21<sup>st</sup> century matinee of *Swan Lake* moves as a thousand swans before her moved. As a Creative Writing major, you have entered an academic program in which the craft, practice and art of imaginative writing are taught, in tandem with different forms of the study of literature. The importance we place in a writer’s education on reading widely and well is evident even in the language on your diploma. Your B.A. from Emory University will be in English/Creative Writing, not Creative Writing alone. This handbook is an introduction to the requirements of the Creative Writing major, and to the activities and resources of the Program. Rolled up, it is also useful for swatting people who think writing is easy.

In his 1837 Phi Beta Kappa address, “The American Scholar,” Ralph Waldo Emerson broke with tradition in calling for both “creative writing” and “creative reading.” He was championing, not the specific structures we have in place today for the teaching of writing, but the kind of creative learning that is at the heart of a liberal arts education. Writers live in the world. Everything you learn, from the languages of Cervantes and Tolstoy to the true composition of “shooting stars,” will serve the writer, and the person, you are becoming. Every year, our majors go on to law school, medical school, or other graduate education, including Master of Fine Arts’ programs in writing. They become entrepreneurs, doctors, public health administrators, chemists, actors, lawyers, Peace Corps volunteers, chefs, computer programmers and political activists. Some organize their lives around writing, on the job and off. Others write a poem a year, always in the middle of the night when the house is quiet. In different ways, graduates in Creative Writing are writers, and readers, for a lifetime.

## **Creative Writing Program: Procedures, Courses, Major Requirements**

### **Faculty**

True ease in writing comes from art, not chance.  
As those move easiest who have learned to dance.  
–Alexander Pope

The Creative Writing faculty core faculty:

- Jericho Brown, poet, is Director of the Program and Charles Howard Candler Professor of English and Creative Writing
- Heather Christle, poet, is an Assistant Professor of English and Creative Writing
- T Cooper, a prose writer in both fiction and nonfiction, and a filmmaker, is Assistant Professor of English and Creative Writing
- Tayari Jones, novelist and essayist, is Charles Howard Candler Professor of English and Creative Writing
- Hank Klibanoff, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and nonfiction writer, is Professor of Practice
- Robyn Schiff, poet, is Professor of English and Creative Writing
- Joseph Skibell, prose writer, screenwriter and playwright, is Professor of English and Creative Writing
- Tiphonie Yanique, Associate Professor of English and Creative Writing, is a novelist, short story writer and poet

One or more young writers typically join our faculty as two-year Creative Writing Fellows. Gabriel Houck is the 2019-2022 Creative Writing Fellow in Fiction, Justin Hayes is the 2021-2023 Nicholas Jenkins Barrett Fellow in Fiction, and Maya Marshall is the 2021-2023 Creative Writing Fellow in Poetry. The Creative Writing Program and the Department of Theater and Dance also offer a joint fellowship in Playwriting. Kimberly Belflower is the 2019-2022 Fellow in Playwriting and Megan Tabaque is the 2021-2023 Fellow in Playwriting. Visiting writers also teach in the program, ensuring a range of writing interests and styles. Faculty offices are located in the Callaway North Building.

Each faculty member's biography, office hours and contact information is available on their individual faculty page on the Creative Writing Program website at:  
<http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/people/faculty/index.html>

Always be smarter than the people who hired you.  
–Lena Horne

## **Staff**

Nora Lewis, the Creative Writing Program's Academic Department Administrator, oversees much of its day-to-day routine. You'll find her in the Creative Writing Program office, N209 Callaway Building, the same place where applications for workshops, and contest entries, are dropped off each semester. (E-mail address: [nora.lewis@emory.edu](mailto:nora.lewis@emory.edu); phone: 404-727-4683).

Writing is an exploration. You start from  
nothing and learn as you go.  
–E.L. Doctorow

## **Declaring a Creative Writing Major**

The first step in declaring a major is filling out the online declaration of major form (<http://college.emory.edu/oue/about-us/forms/index.html>). After you have submitted the form, the next step is a required conversation with a Creative Writing faculty advisor. (Only full-time core faculty are advisors.) You'll have a chance to ask any questions you may have, as well as hearing about the major's requirements, and Program activities.

The department administrator, Nora Lewis, will e-mail you after you have submitted your declaration of major form with information about meeting with a faculty advisor.

After your talk about the major with a faculty advisor, you must go to the Program office (N209 Callaway) to complete the declaration process.

Did you hear about the boy who cheated  
on the metaphysics exam? He looked into  
the soul of the boy next to him.  
–Woody Allen

## **The Advising Process in Creative Writing**

As a Creative Writing major you are assigned a faculty advisor as you enter the Program to ensure you have a place (and a person) for discussions that aren't simply about your writing in a specific workshop. Often your advisor will be the faculty member with whom you had your initial conversation about choosing Creative Writing as a major. But your assigned advisor may also depend on faculty availability and your own preferences. Some students change advisors as they begin to specialize in a particular genre; others stay with one advisor

throughout their years as a major. Remember that you're never limited to talking about your program of study only with your formal advisor; the chances are you'll have these sorts of conversations with every member of the Creative Writing faculty at different times. But most students like knowing there's one faculty member officially responsible for helping them navigate the major successfully. Advising will, of course, involve talking with you about course selection in meeting the major requirements, but also discussions about fitting in a semester abroad, genre specialization, graduate school and career options, internship possibilities, and more. It may also mean helping you address other issues: a mix-up with your academic records, unexpected problems with a class, concerns about your health. If your advisor is aware of an issue, even outside Creative Writing, he or she can help you find answers in the College.

Every Creative Writing major is responsible for monitoring completion of the College's General Education Requirements (GER) and the requirements to fulfill the Creative Writing major. Advisors are also available in the Office of Undergraduate Education to discuss GER requirements: <http://college.emory.edu/oue/current-students/advising.html>

Students and advisors monitor progress towards fulfilling the major and graduation through the OPUS tool Degree Tracker. (Some advisors may also want to review transcripts.) Some of the classes you have taken towards the major may not show up in Degree Tracker – this may include classes you took abroad, classes you took at another school before you transferred to Emory, or classes crosslisted with Creative Writing or English that you took under another department's prefix. In such cases, please contact Nora Lewis in the Creative Writing Program office. She can manually add in Degree Tracker that class to the list of classes taken to fulfill the major.

### **Applying for a Creative Writing Workshop**

All Creative Writing courses (except freshmen seminars, which are not permission classes) require a permission number before you can register, even if you're a major, even if OPUS slips up and lets you in, even if you're a senior major and need four workshops in one semester to graduate. (If the last example applies to you, please roll up the handbook, tightly, and use it to tap out an e-mail asking for an emergency advising appointment—the kind we think you won't need since we'll be talking to you so often.)

To get a permission number, majors and non-majors alike must complete Creative Writing's internal application process. Detailed instructions for enrolling in a Creative Writing class (everything, in fact, but anatomical drawings) are outlined in the course descriptions posted on the program's web page at <http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/academics/index.html>

The course descriptions on the Program's webpage are the most complete version of each semester's course atlas, and we recommend you consult this version of the atlas for instructions regarding application for specific classes, some of which may require writing samples.

A less complete version of the atlas is available at Emory College's site (<https://atlas.emory.edu/>) and in OPUS. Again, we recommend you consult the Program's complete version at our webpage before you apply for a class.

Here are the highlights for applying for a Creative Writing class:

### The Application Process

The Creative Writing Program announces a deadline each semester, in advance of pre-registration, for submitting the application form. The deadline is announced via the online College Weekly to all College students, in our classes, in the Course Atlas, and on our website. Creative Writing majors and English majors also receive through e-mail information about the deadline and the application process. By the deadline, complete an application for the workshop you would like to take. The application form can be picked up at the Program office, or online at our website: <http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/academics/index.html> **Do not contact an instructor about taking a class.** All applications must be submitted to the Program administrator in N209 Callaway, and she will forward your application to the instructor. Students who are not on campus may submit the application to Nora Lewis at [nora.lewis@emory.edu](mailto:nora.lewis@emory.edu).

A sample application is provided on page 29. Creative Writing majors are given first preference in this process, followed by English majors.

List a second choice of workshop on each application, since your first choice may not be available.

Return the completed application to the Creative Writing Program in N209 Callaway by the deadline set by Creative Writing (or via e-mail during Covid-19 restrictions). If you are studying abroad or not on campus during pre-registration, or physically unable to get to the Program office, you should request an application via e-mail from Nora Lewis ([nora.lewis@emory.edu](mailto:nora.lewis@emory.edu)).

Late applications are accepted at any time but if the class you want is already full by the time you apply, you will be placed on a waiting list. If a space becomes available, the Program administrator will contact you.

### Acceptance and Your Permission Number

The department administrator, Nora Lewis, will e-mail you to let you know if you have been accepted into your first or second choice class. If you have been accepted, she will send you permission number for that class. You cannot register without the permission number.

If you have not been accepted (usually because a space is not available, but occasionally there are other reasons for non-acceptance), Nora will contact you to discuss the waiting list and other options for taking a Creative Writing workshop.

If you have been accepted into a Creative Writing workshop, use the permission number to register for the class. If you are given a permission number after your pre-registration appointment period, please register as soon as possible after Add/Drop/Swap begins so your professor won't have to forward to the department administrator the many e-mails from students who think the class might still be open.

A reminder that **\*\*OPUS is not have an accurate account of space available in our classes\*\***; it only shows the number of students who have enrolled. We may be holding spaces for students who are accepted but have not yet enrolled. Keep in touch with the office about the status of a particular class, especially at the beginning of a semester, since openings often develop unexpectedly.

Once you decide **not** to take a course for which you have a permission number, please let the Creative Writing Program department administrator Nora Lewis know so another student can take your place.

When things go wrong (you forgot to apply; you e-mailed an application from Spain that went awry), please see Nora Lewis in the Creative Writing Program office to see if any openings are still available or to be put on a waiting list. If you require further assistance, see your faculty advisor or the director of the Program.

Please note that ALL Creative Writing workshop courses (except for the freshman seminar) are permission-only.

### GER Tags

All Creative Writing courses fulfill the Humanities, Arts, Performance (HAP) portion of the GERs. Creative Writing courses usually fulfill the Continuing Writing Requirement (W). However, instructors have the option of removing the Continuing Writing Requirement (W) tag from their courses, so you should check on OPUS or the Course Atlas to determine if a specific course or section is a writing course.

### **Workshops**

Creative Writing classes at Emory are limited to 15 students, and some advanced-level workshops may be even smaller. Workshops meet once a week for three hours; the word "workshop" denotes that construction (of both writing and writers) is underway. Workshops are offered in five genres (poetry, fiction, playwriting, screenwriting, and creative nonfiction) and at three levels, now called introductory, intermediate, and advanced.

## Grade Reports

Regular conferences with faculty are a standard feature of writing workshops, so students usually have a sense of how they've done in a class as a semester ends. Final conferences, specifically to discuss grades, may also be held. The Program faculty cannot post grades or release grades via telephone or e-mail. Students receive their final grade report via OPUS through the Registrar.

**The minimum grade for a class to count towards the Creative Writing major is a C.**

## The Creative Writing Major

Eleven courses are required for the Creative Writing major: five Creative Writing workshops, and six literature courses. (Specific requirements follow.)

### CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS

Creative Writing majors must complete five writing workshops (fifteen to twenty credits). One semester of Creative Writing independent study (ENGCW 397RW) or one semester of Creative Writing Honors (ENGCW 495RW) may count as one writing workshop. At least two of the five workshops must be taken in the same genre. Students are encouraged to continue study in the genre that was the focus of their 200-level workshop, but currently that is not a requirement.

All students, including majors and non-majors, must take one 200-level writing workshop (ENGCW 270W, 271W, or 272W) before advancing to 300-level workshops. ENGCW 270W is an introductory course that covers two genres of the instructor's choosing (fiction, poetry, playwriting, screenwriting, creative nonfiction) and currently is only offered at Oxford College. ENGCW 271W is a workshop in poetry. ENGCW 272W is a workshop in fiction. **These 200-level Creative Writing workshops may not be taken a second time for credit. All other workshops may be repeated once for credit.**

Students who have completed a 200-level workshop in any genre may move into any 300-level workshop. Individual instructors may at their discretion waive the 200-level prerequisite for 300-level courses for junior and senior non-majors.

The instructor of each intermediate level workshop will assess all students in the workshop for readiness to enroll in advanced-level workshops. Your grade is your assessment: A grade of A or A- in the intermediate level is required to take an advanced-level workshop. Only students who receive this positive assessment of readiness may enter an advanced workshop. Advanced workshops are taught only in the spring, but are not offered in every genre, or offered every year.

### Requests to Take Two Workshops in the Same Semester

Majors who wish to apply for two Creative Writing workshops in the same semester must obtain permission from the Program Director. Students who apply for this permission by sending an e-mail to Nora Lewis ([nora.lewis@emory.edu](mailto:nora.lewis@emory.edu)) with the following information:

- The semester in which you want to take two workshops
- An explanation why you need to take two workshops in the same semester
- The two workshops you intend to take, with course number, section, title, and name of instructor (ex: ENGCW 370RW-1 Intermediate Fiction, Cooper)
- A list of workshops you have already taken, with semester, course number, section, title, and name of instructor (ex: Spring 2021, ENGCW 370RW-1 Intermediate Fiction, Cooper)

Nora Lewis will let you know the Program director's decision regarding your request for two workshops.

Majors who intend to take only one writing workshop in a semester may NOT apply for two workshops simply to sample both before choosing. Majors may take two workshops in the same semester only once.

### LITERATURE REQUIREMENT:

Six 300-level English courses (eighteen to twenty-four credits) (See 200-level course exception below).

All six English courses MUST be focused in literary studies. Writing Program classes (ENGRD) classes do **not** fulfill the major, with one exception: Literary Editing and Publishing, taught by Daniel Bosch (check the atlas for the course number). The Literary Editing and Publishing class will count as both prose AND poetry.

For the literature requirement, you must take:

- At least two courses concentrating mainly on poetry.
- At least two courses concentrating mainly on prose.
- At least two courses on writing of the 19th century or earlier.

Dramatists may substitute works of drama for some part of the poetry or prose requirement but not for all of either; this is to be worked out between student and advisor.



Each major's advisor will exercise discretion in allowing credit for these categories since some courses mix poetry, prose, and drama. Advisors may allow credit for one 200-level English course to substitute for a 300-400 level course.

Some literature courses will satisfy more than one requirement. For example, a course in which you read Shakespeare would satisfy one “19<sup>th</sup> century and earlier” requirement and one “primary focus on poetry” requirement. If, as may happen, you fulfill all of the “poetry/prose/19<sup>th</sup> century” requirements in four courses, the final two of your six required literature courses could cover topics in which you’re particularly interested – but please note you must take at least six English literature classes. Your advisor will make the final determination about how a specific course is counted toward fulfilling major requirements.

Literature courses offered by departments other than English (African American Studies, for example, or Women’s Studies) must be cross-listed with English to count toward your Creative Writing major.

Six opportunities to read the literature of writers and different centuries is, of course, only the beginning of what a writer needs, and wants, to know. In addition to satisfying the specific requirements for the major, your advisor can help you make choices that enhance your education as a writer, and plans for post-graduate education.

Writing is the only thing that, when I do it,  
I don’t feel I should be doing something else.  
–Gloria Steinem

### **The Joint Major in Playwriting**

Emory College’s joint playwriting major brings together the disciplines of Theater Studies and Creative Writing in an innovative synthesis designed to educate playwrights both as writers and as theater professionals. A playwright must understand the workings of narrative and storytelling and have the opportunity to develop dramatic, fully realized narratives. The playwright also needs a strong grounding in the literature and mechanics of theater and in the collaborative process, since these are the worlds he or she seeks to inhabit, and the instrument for which the playwright composes. The joint major, which grew out of a unique team teaching model developed at Emory, will involve playwriting majors in the crucial writing and staging aspects of the field. Playwriting students at Emory are engaged in an endeavor that spans the full process, from conceiving an idea to opening night.

#### Cross-listed Requirements

- Playwriting (ENGCW/THEA 372RW)
- Advanced Playwriting (ENGCW/THEA 375RW)

- History of Drama and Theater 1 and 2 (ENG/THEA 215 and 216)

#### Theater (THEA), 11-13 Hours

- Reading for Performance (THEA 210W)
- Two courses from Acting or Directing or Design (these two courses must be from different areas)
- One dramatic literature course 300-level or above (an ENG course can be used if focused on dramatic literature)

#### English/Creative Writing (ENG/ENG CW), 14-16 hours

- Two literature courses, 300-level or above (at least one course must be focused on dramatic literature)
- Two Creative Writing workshops (Poetry, Fiction, Creative Nonfiction, Screenwriting, or repeat Playwriting/Advanced Playwriting); only ONE of these can be at the 200 level.

#### Advising

Joint playwriting majors will be assigned an advisor from either the Creative Writing or Theater Studies faculty.

#### Declaring a Joint Playwriting Major

Students interested in finding out more about the joint playwriting major should talk to a faculty member in either Theater Studies or Creative Writing. Those conversations provide a good foundation for declaring the major. After talking with faculty, an official declaration of the major is submitted by filling out the online declaration of major form (<http://college.emory.edu/oue/about-us/forms/index.html>). Nora Lewis in Creative Writing will respond to your declaration to let you know the next steps to take to complete the declaration process.

#### Minor in Creative Writing

The Creative Writing program does not offer a minor in Creative Writing. However, students may use two Creative Writing workshops to fulfill an English minor; please contact the English Department regarding declaring the English minor. You will still be required to fill out the application form for the Creative Writing workshops you want to take. Creative Writing faculty are available to you for any advising that may be needed regarding the selection of workshops. This will be listed in your transcript as a minor in English.

## **Graduation**

Students must apply to graduate. At the start of the expected graduation term, a student will receive a link to the Online Graduation Application (<http://college.emory.edu/oue/current-students/graduating-students.html#graduation>). Students can refer to the Graduation Application Guidelines for further information, checklist, and required documents to complete the application.

The deadlines for degree application are term specific and can be found on the website for the [Office of the Registrar](#).

Application review and certification occurs after the deadline by the Office for Undergraduate Education, who will only contact you if we have questions about your application.

Advisors must sign degree applications and initial classes taken towards the major in the final semester. The Creative Writing Program department administrator, Nora Lewis, may sign the form for the advisor, upon receiving an e-mail from the advisor that the student has fulfilled all the requirements for the Creative Writing major.

The minimum grade for a class to count towards the Creative Writing major is a C.

Graduating seniors are also required to fill out a Senior Survey and, if they have taken a Creative Writing workshop in their final semester, a copy of their final work for the class. The Course Completion Review form will not be signed until the Senior Survey and the final work (if the student took a workshop in spring) are submitted.

Students should be aware of the degree application deadline and make an appointment with their advisors in time to meet the application deadline. (Late applications will be assessed a fee.) Please do not wait to the last minute. Do not walk into the Creative Writing Program office the day your degree application is due and expect an instant signature. The department administrator can sign the form, but first must received an approval from the major's faculty advisor that the major requirements have been fulfilled. Be proactive and plan ahead.

## **CREATIVE WRITING (ENGCW) CATALOG DESCRIPTIONS**

### **190 Freshman Seminar**

Topics/genres vary. Emphasizes reading and writing as elements in intellectual exploration. Does not satisfy first-year writing requirement.

### **270W Introduction to Creative Writing**

Fall semester. Introductory workshop in creative writing covering at least two genres from the following: Fiction, Poetry, Screenwriting, Playwriting, Creative Nonfiction. Counts as a prerequisite for 300-level intermediate workshops but not for Advanced Fiction, Advanced Poetry, or Advanced Playwriting. May not be repeated for credit.

### 271W Introduction to Poetry Writing

Every semester. Introductory workshop in poetry writing. Counts as a prerequisite for 300-level intermediate workshops but not for Advanced Fiction, Advanced Poetry, or Advanced Playwriting. May not be repeated for credit.

### 272W Introduction to Fiction Writing

Every semester. Introductory workshop in fiction writing. Counts as a prerequisite for 300-level intermediate workshops but not for Advanced Fiction, Advanced Poetry, or Advanced Playwriting. May not be repeated for credit.

### 370RW Creative Writing: Intermediate Fiction

Every semester. Intermediate level workshop in writing fiction. ENGCW 270, 271, or 272 required as prerequisite. May be repeated for a maximum of eight hours credit.

### 371RW Creative Writing: Intermediate Poetry

Every semester. Intermediate level workshop in writing poetry. ENGCW 270, 271, or 272 required as prerequisite. May be repeated for a maximum of eight hours credit.

### 372Rw Creative Writing: Intermediate Playwriting

Every semester. Intermediate level workshop in writing plays. May be repeated for a maximum of eight hours credit.

### 373RW Creative Writing: Advanced Fiction

Spring semester. Admittance by assessment of readiness for advanced work by intermediate level instructor in genre. Intensive workshop in the writing of fiction for advanced students. May be repeated for a maximum of eight hours credit.

### 374RW Creative Writing: Advanced Poetry

Spring semester. Admittance by assessment of readiness for advanced work by intermediate level instructor in genre. Intensive workshop in the writing of poetry for advanced students. May be repeated for a maximum of eight hours credit.

### 375RW Creative Writing: Advanced Playwriting

Offered periodically. Admittance by assessment of readiness for advanced work by intermediate level instructor in genre. Intensive workshop in the writing of playwriting for advanced students. May be repeated for a maximum of eight hours credit.

### 376RW Creative Writing: Intermediate Nonfiction

Every semester. Intermediate level workshop in nonfiction genres that often use fictional techniques. ENG 270, 271, or 272 required as prerequisite. May be repeated for a maximum of eight hours credit.

### 378RW Creative Writing: Screenwriting

Every semester. Intermediate level workshop in form and structure of screenwriting. May be repeated for a maximum of eight hours credit.

### 379RW Creative Writing: Advanced Screenwriting

An advanced writing-intensive course in the construction and formatting of screenplays for upper-level undergraduates, which also broaches various aspects of pre-production planning. May be repeated for a maximum of eight hours credit.

### 389W Creative Writing: Special Topics

Workshop course in which the content varies. Typical topics include autobiographical writing, the novel, first-person narrative, formalist poetry, and nonrealistic drama. May be repeated for a maximum of eight hours credit.

### 397RW Creative Writing: Independent Study

Credit, variable; maybe be repeated for a maximum of eight hours credit when topic varies. Specific topics to be announced. Typical subjects include the novel, first-person narrative, formalist poetry, and nonrealistic forms. ENG CW 270, 271, or 272 required as prerequisite.

### 495RW Directed Study: Honors in Creative Writing

Senior year. Credit variable. May be repeated for a maximum of 8 hours credit. Approval of adviser and the Director of the Program must be obtained. A tutorial designed primarily to assist honors candidates in preparing their projects.

If art is the result of choices, conscious and not,  
we make, then make only those choices that  
serve the tale, not the teller.

--Lee K. Abbot

## **Creative Writing Honors Program**

Every Creative Writing major will graduate with a body of work produced in five writing workshops. Majors accepted into the Honors Program go beyond that in proposing, and then sustaining, a major writing project over their senior year. The “product” of participation in the Honors Program may be a collection of poetry, stories, or essays, a novella, play, or screenplay. Directed by a faculty member in Creative Writing, Honors projects push the work, and the writer, beyond what can be accomplished in a 14-week workshop. It’s an experience most majors want to have. Emory awards Highest Honors (summa cum laude), High Honors (magna cum laude), and Honors (cum laude). Acceptance into the Honors Program is a competitive process at both the College and the Program level, and if you are interested, you should begin to prepare for it the day you declare your major.

## **Getting into Honors**

The overall Honors Program is administered by Emory College. The “gate” through which every Honors student at Emory, whatever his or her major, must pass is a **cumulative** GPA

of 3.5 or higher. (Students doing Honors whose GPAs drop below 3.5 at any time during their senior year are no longer eligible to participate in the program.) The Creative Writing Program may petition the College Honors Program to waive the GPA requirement for an exceptional student. Those appeals are made only rarely and are even more rarely successful.

Any member of the Creative Writing faculty, including your advisor, is available to talk with you about your Honors proposal. Making an appointment in the fall semester to talk with a faculty member (or more than one faculty member) is an excellent way to begin the process of preparing your application.

Not every student who applies for Honors in Creative Writing is accepted. The decision is based primarily on a student's apparent readiness to take on a major writing project, as reflected in the quality of his or her application. But the availability of faculty to direct honors projects in a given year may also be a factor.

Students who are graduating in December and wish to do Honors in Spring and Fall (rather than the usual Fall/Spring schedule) should apply by the Spring deadline a year and a half before their December graduation.

The College requires a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA for acceptance into the Honors Program, and that accepted students maintain a 3.5 to continue in the Program after acceptance.

If you are accepted into Creative Writing Honors, you will be assigned a faculty member to direct your project. Your thesis advisor should be a member of the Creative Writing faculty who specializes in your chosen genre and who will be teaching both semesters of your senior year (rather than on leave, or otherwise unavailable.)

A deadline date for the Honors application is set each spring and posted to the Creative Writing webpage in the Academics section and also sent to the Creative Writing majors listserv. The date is generally in early April. It's best to begin talking much earlier to your advisor and other Creative Writing faculty about possible projects. All applications must include the following:

- **A cover sheet** with your name, address, student number, NET ID, e-mail address, and Spring and Summer contact information.
- **A resumé** detailing your activities at Emory and a list of the Creative Writing workshops you've taken, when, and who taught them.
- **A one-page synopsis that demonstrates the thinking you've already done about a possible honors project in a specific genre.** It's true the project you first conceive as five linked stories about a coastal town in Maine may be four stories set on Lake Superior before you're done. Over time, as the work is re-envisioned, both the project's structure and content may change. But the original proposal should incorporate a strong idea – and a strong understanding of the narrative and formal

obligations of your chosen genre. For example, a proposal for a novella that spans one week of the fishing season in a coastal village in Maine, told from the points of view of three townspeople, may be a manageable project. A proposal for a novella that suggests 150 years in the same village can be dramatized from the points of view of a dozen fishermen's wives – and two cod fish -- may not be manageable in 75 or 100 pages, or in an academic year. Talking with faculty about your project idea is a good place to begin framing it in a workable – and compelling -- way in your application.

- **A sample of work** in the genre in which you plan to do your thesis: 20 pages of fiction or non-fiction; a substantial group of poems; 20 pages of a play or screenplay. The work submitted should showcase your strengths in a particular genre. Just as with work you send to a magazine or contest, the copy included in your Honors application should be double-spaced, with page numbers, and be checked (and re-checked) for spelling and usage errors.

Completed applications must be submitted via e-mail to the department administrator, Nora Lewis, [nora.lewis@emory.edu](mailto:nora.lewis@emory.edu), by the deadline announced each spring. **(Students planning to graduate in December should see the director of the Creative Writing Program in the first semester of their junior year.)**

The Creative Writing faculty, serving as an Honors Selection Committee, reviews all applications. Students are notified of the faculty's decisions after Spring grades are posted, and assigned a thesis advisor. Those students not accepted are encouraged to talk to the Program's director about other ways to use their senior year to work on a sustained project.

All good writing is swimming underwater  
and holding your breath.

–F. Scott Fitzgerald

### **Once You Are Accepted to the Honors Program**

After you call home to say you've been accepted in Creative Writing's Honors Program, the next step is to see your thesis advisor. Every honors project plays out differently, but you'll be encouraged to write as much as you can the summer before your senior year. Students who show up in the fall with at least some of the work drafted are in a stronger position to make good use of the year.

Honors students register for ENGCW 495RW (Creative Writing: Honors) in the fall and spring of their senior year. A permission number is required, so please see Nora Lewis to obtain the number. No grade is awarded for either semester until the completion of the project, meaning that we will report your grade for the fall semester as "IP" (in progress). Also, by spring, you'll choose the other members of your Honors committee. Committees must consist of at least three core members. Core committee members must be regular Emory University faculty members from any school or unit. One member must be

from the student's honors major and at least one member must be from Emory College. You may have additional committee members, including faculty from other universities, beyond the required three core members. Only core members vote on level of honors. Your advisor counts as one of the three core members.

Your primary reader for the thesis will be your director. The way in which Honors students and directors work together is highly individual. Generally, students meet regularly with their directors to discuss work-in-progress, and this process intensifies as spring semester draws near.

From the first week of the fall semester, Honors students are preparing for the moment in the spring when the completed thesis is given to the second and third readers, in preparation for the "defense" of their project before their full honors committee. Projects are usually distributed to second and third readers about the first week in March, as a date for the defense is being scheduled in consultation with all the committee members. Booking a room for the defense, and coming up with a date and time suitable for your faculty committee is part of your responsibilities as an honors student. Most honors defenses are held in the English Department's Kemp Malone Library, N301 Callaway Center. Please contact Nora Lewis to reserve the Kemp Malone (or another room, if the Kemp Malone is not available) for your honors defense. Students who are holding their defenses via Zoom should send the link to Nora Lewis (as well as their committee members).

Honors in Emory College is directed by Dr. Kristin Frenzel, Chair of the Honors Committee, and administered by Carlee Beard ([ec.honorsprogram@emory.edu](mailto:ec.honorsprogram@emory.edu)), College Honors Program Administrator, in the Office for Undergraduate Education. Carlee communicates with students throughout the year about College Honors deadlines and requirements. The date for an honors thesis defense in Creative Writing must take into account the College deadline for submission of the completed and correctly formatted and signed thesis.

Scheduling a thesis defense a week or two before the College deadline gives you ample time to grapple with the presentation requirements, the formatting, and the gathering of required signatures.

The thesis "defense" itself is much less adversarial an event than the name might suggest. It's more an extended, and lively, conversation about the work between the writer and three careful readers. Before the defense date, students meet with their director to prepare by thinking out loud about what questions the work might prompt. Topics covered may include decisions made in the work, the project's strengths and weaknesses, and its movement over the course of the academic year. At the end of the defense (usually sixty to ninety minutes) the student leaves the room while the committee considers the degree of honors to award.

Honors (*cum laude*) represents satisfactory completion of the program, with a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.5 or higher. High Honors (*magna cum laude*) represents completion of the program with outstanding performance, including a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.5 or higher and a thesis considered potentially publishable with revision at some future date. Highest honors (*summa cum laude*) represents completion of the program with exceptional performance,



including a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.5 or higher and a thesis of a quality suitable for publication.

You will submit a PDF of your honors thesis to the College after you have completed your defense. Carlee Beard will send you instructions regarding submission of the PDF and required forms. Another copy of the honors thesis PDF should be sent to Nora Lewis (nora.lewis@emory.edu) in the Creative Writing Program office.

Emory College Honors Program FAQ: <http://catalog.college.emory.edu/academic/honors-program/honors-faq.html>

### **Independent Study (ENGCW 397RW)**

ENGCW 397RW is designed to permit students to explore material not taught in regular workshops, or to pursue projects beyond the scope of a workshop. The program has refrained from specifying or limiting the content of 397RW in order to make it flexible enough to meet a wide range of needs. Before you talk to a faculty member about directing an independent study, you should have a specific topic or purpose firmly in mind. You may not register for independent study without the approval of a faculty member. The plan of study, the amount of credit to be earned, and the work required must be agreed upon in advance. Independent study arrangements vary, but setting up a regular schedule of meetings with your director can help you avoid falling behind.

Please note: Students must apply for ENGCW 397RW with a special Independent Study application form which is available from Nora Lewis in the Creative Writing Program office (N209 Callaway). The completed form must include a brief written summary of the proposed course of study, and must be signed by the faculty member directing the Independent Study. The signed form must be on file with the Program before the student can be given a permission number to register for Independent Study in a given semester. **Independent Study is a variable credit course, so students must discuss the number of credits with the faculty member who will be your Independent Study director, and note the agreed-upon number on the application form. You must also tell OPUS the correct number of credits when you enroll; otherwise OPUS will default to just one credit.**

### **Study Abroad Programs**

Emory's Study Abroad office: <http://studyabroad.emory.edu/index.html>

Students preparing to study abroad should be aware of the Creative Writing Program (and English Department) rules that affect courses taken for our major. Please read the following. See your advisor or the Program director if you have questions.

The Creative Writing Program does not allow Creative Writing workshops taken abroad to count towards the major. If you are planning to take a Creative Writing class abroad, you

must discuss your plans with your faculty advisor.

Students studying in countries where English is not the primary language may take only one English literature course toward the Creative Writing major. The course must be equivalent to an upper level (300 or 400) English literature course at Emory.

Creative Writing majors studying in countries where English is the primary language may take two English literature courses toward the major. The courses must be equivalent to an upper-level (300 or 400) English literature course at Emory.

All literature courses that are to be applied to the English literature requirement of the major will be reviewed with the Department of English to determine that they are equivalent to Emory courses. Therefore, you should send online requests for such approvals for English literature classes abroad to the English Department Director of Undergraduate Studies, Paul Kelleher [pkelleh@emory.edu](mailto:pkelleh@emory.edu). You should pay close attention to the number of hours of credit offered by such a program and consult with their advisors if necessary to make sure that the planned courses are equivalent to the four hours of credit that Emory courses fulfill.

Keep careful records of all the academic work you do abroad; save course syllabi, papers, exams, and any other course materials. If a problem arises with the credit for your study abroad, being able to show exactly what was required in a course will be important.

### **Summer Writing Workshops**

Students often have the opportunity to take a summer writing workshop at Emory—a course in one of the Summer School’s two sessions that may be applied to the five workshops required for the major. For information about course offerings in a particular summer, contact the Creative Writing Program office or check our summer school web page at <http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/academics/summer.html>.

### **Creative Writing and Your Liberal Arts Education**

We encourage some degree of specialization in the workshops taken for the major, and as much breadth as possible in the required literature courses. But there’s more to your education than our major. The reality is that any knowledge can inspire, and deepen, your writing. A liberal arts education is about trying new things, testing passions as well as developing mastery. Courses in the Humanities are natural choices for Creative Writing majors, but the Social Sciences and Natural Sciences can offer just as much. In fact, any course you take may provide a spark for your development as a writer and person. Here are a few specific suggestions for courses outside the Creative Writing Program.

A working knowledge of classical mythology and Biblical literature is a useful tool for reading English and American literature. Classical Mythology (Classics 102) and Biblical Literature (Religion 205) can help one to acquire this knowledge. Our understanding of

literature is greatly enriched if we can place it in its historical context. English history (History 312 and 313) and American history (History 231 and 232) will help the student to this end. The Department of Art History also offers two survey courses: Art and Architecture from Prehistory to the Renaissance and Art and Architecture from the Renaissance to the Present (101, 102) and Understanding Architecture (103). Equally important is the philosophical context of literature. Basic Problems in Philosophy and Introduction to Logic, offered in two consecutive semesters (Philosophy 100 and 110) and Introduction to Philosophy & Literature (Philosophy 130) are valuable.

Students studying English literature should not overlook the literature of other nations and traditions. The Literature Program and several of the language departments offer courses that require no knowledge of the language; one can study Latin, German, Russian, French, Italian, and Spanish literature in translation. Check the offerings of the various departments and the Literature Program for appropriate courses. Please note that any literature courses taken abroad will only count towards the major if the content is more than 50 percent works originally written in English.

For many students, college is the last opportunity to learn a foreign language in a systematic way beyond the introductory level. Such preparation is invaluable to the serious student of literature.

Students interested in the connections between literature and psychology or literature and society may wish to consider particular offerings in Anthropology, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Women's Studies, and African American Studies.

What is this cake about?  
–Writing on cake served  
at majors' party

### **Creative Writing Program Activities**

A writer's education is never limited to the classroom. A variety of activities throughout the academic year enhance the educations of writers at Emory. Learning not to drink the punch is only the beginning.

### **Reading Series**

In its 31-year history, the Creative Writing Program has brought approximately 185 distinguished writers to campus as part of our annual Reading Series. All reading series events are free and open to the public. Most visits are two days: an evening reading, and an afternoon question-and-answer session about writing. Students in Creative Writing workshops are required to attend the events, but it isn't the small print on a syllabus that makes people line up to hear Margaret Atwood scatter one-liners in her analysis of classical literature, or watch Colson Whitehead preface his reading with a perfect rendering of a rap

classic. It's the opportunity to learn from the best. One Nobel Prize recipient winner has read in the Series, as have winners of eighteen MacArthur Foundation "genius grants," twenty-one Pulitzer Prizes, thirteen National Book Awards, sixteen National Book Critics Circle Awards, five Tony Awards, six Obie Awards, two Booker Prizes, and six Poet Laureates of the United States.

Reading Series events are publicized through a variety of platforms, including the main university and the Arts at Emory calendars, the Creative Writing Program's webpage ([http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/reading\\_series/index.html](http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/reading_series/index.html)), Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/405456706138066/>), in classes, and on student and faculty listserves. The Program usually distributes a printed Reading Series brochure each year and hangs posters in the Callaway Building and nearby locations.

### **Other Series**

The Raymond Danowski Poetry Library Reading Series, coordinated by the Rose Library, brings distinguished poets of national and international renown to campus for readings and classroom visits. The Danowski series has included poets Rita Dove, Robert Pinsky, Lucille Clifton, Campbell McGrath, Li-Young Lee, the presidential inaugural poets Elizabeth Alexander and Richard Blanco, Mary Oliver, Matthew and Michael Dickman, Toi Derricotte, Cornelius Eady, Billy Collins, Seamus Heaney, Juan Felipe Herrera, Tracy K. Smith and Joy Harjo. More information is available at <https://scholarblogs.emory.edu/danowskipoetrylibrary/reading-series-landing/>.

### **Writing Contests**

The Program holds an annual contest for the best undergraduate writing in fiction, poetry, playwriting, creative nonfiction, and screenwriting. Each contest is judged by a professional writer outside Emory. Cash awards for fiction, poetry, playwriting and nonfiction are made possible by the generosity of the family of Artistine Mann, a Creative Writing student killed in a car accident. The Agnes Nixon and Kiki McCabe Prize for Screenwriting is a \$1,000 award to an undergraduate student who shows promise in screenwriting. The prize was donated by Cathy McCabe to honor her late mother, Kiki McCabe, and her aunt, Agnes Nixon, both Emmy Award-winning writers for daytime television. The Program also sponsors the Academy of American Poets Award contest, which is open to both undergraduate and graduate students. Students interested in submitting entries should watch for the contest announcements early in the spring semester, or contact the Program office for details. Deadlines, guidelines and entry forms are also available at our website at <http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/academics/contests/index.html>. There is also more information about the Agnes Nixon and Kiki McCabe Prize for Screenwriting at <http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/academics/contests/nixon-mccabe-prize.html>.

## **Grace Abernethy Scholarships**

The Grace Abernethy Scholarships, made possible by the Grace Abernethy Fund, are given each spring to an outstanding Creative Writing major. One scholarship is non-genre specific and the other scholarship is awarded to a student writer of creative nonfiction. Award amounts vary. Funds are dispersed through the Hawaiian Community Foundation, and majors from Hawaii receive preference. Awards may be made to natives of other states, however. If a recipient is on financial aid, the award is applied to his or her aid package.

To apply for the scholarships, students must be declared Creative Writing majors, but may be at any stage in completing the major requirements. Applicants submit a cover sheet with name, address, phone, student number, NET ID, e-mail address, class status, classes taken for the major, and a writing sample of no more than 30 pages. The writing sample for the non-genre specific scholarship may be one genre, or a mixture.

The deadline for the application for these scholarship are set each spring and announced via the Creative Writing majors listserv and on the webpage.

For information about deadlines in the spring semester, contact the Program office or visit our webpage at: <http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/academics/abernethy-scholarship.html>.

## **Tom-Chris Allen Scholarship**

To be eligible for the Tom-Chris Allen Scholarship in Nonfiction, you must be either a Creative Writing major, or have taken a Creative Writing class within the past three years. (The scholarship will be applied the following year, so graduating seniors are not eligible.) Applicants submit a cover sheet with name, address, phone, student number, NET ID, e-mail address, class status, classes taken in Creative Writing, a transcript, and a nonfiction writing samples up to 20 pages which may include different pieces). Your application should also include 250-word statement that lays out your commitment to nonfiction, and the role it has played in your education, and any larger role you've played in advancing writing excellence in the larger College. More information is available online at: <http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/academics/tom-chris%20allen-scholarship.html>.

## **Sudler Prize**

The Sudler Prize in the Arts is given each year to a senior judged by a faculty committee to be the most outstanding young artist in his or her graduating class. Students from Creative Writing, dance, music, theater and studio arts compete for the prize, which is presented at the annual Honors Convocation and includes a substantial cash award

Students do not apply for the Sudler; they are nominated by faculty in the various arts programs at Emory.

### **Resources for Joint Playwriting majors**

Emory's resources offer special opportunities for joint playwriting majors. Theater Emory and its Playwriting Center provide a unique resource for student playwrights. Established and emerging playwrights come to Emory to work on their plays with a diverse group of artistic collaborators including students, faculty and professional theater artists. Play development has become a vital stage of playwriting in the United States, and Theater Emory has established itself as an important center for that work. Since its inception in 1989, the Playwriting Center has commissioned and developed scripts with major playwrights including Arthur Kopit, Frank Manley, Steve Murray, Wole Soyinka and Naomi Wallace.

Brave New Works, a biennial marathon of developing and reading new scripts, has developed more than 100 new works, many of which have been produced in American regional theaters from the Yale Repertory Theater to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and internationally in theaters in South America, Canada and Europe. In recent years, Brave New Works has also included exceptional student work submitted by Emory alumni and undergraduates, like Lauren Gunderson, whose play, *Leap*, went on to be produced by Theater Emory in 2003 and who is now one of the most-produced playwrights in the country.

The Lenaia Festival is an annual, student-run festival featuring staged readings of student plays-in-progress.

Nationally and internationally known playwrights come to Emory campus each year as part of the Creative Writing Reading Series, co-sponsored with Theater Studies, which affords students another opportunity to learn from the best in the field. Past playwrights in the Reading Series have included Athol Fugard, Theresa Rebeck, Margaret Edson, John Guare, Jose Rivera, Paula Vogel, David Henry Hwang, Quiara Hudes, Beth Henley and Katori Hall.

Playwriting students also may compete for an Artistine Mann Playwriting Award each year. The award is given in honor of Artistine Mann, a young writer and Emory undergraduate who was killed in a car accident before she could graduate.

### **Emory College Plagiarism Statement**

(From the university's Honor Code, <http://catalog.college.emory.edu/academic/policies-regulations/honor-code.html>)

## THE USE OF SOURCES IN WRITING RESEARCH PAPERS IN EMORY COLLEGE

A writer's facts, ideas, and phraseology should be regarded as his property. Any person who uses a writer's ideas or phraseology without giving due credit is guilty of plagiarism.

Information may be put into a paper without a footnote or some kind of documentation only if it meets all of the following conditions:

It may be found in several books on the subject. It is written entirely in the words of the student. It is not paraphrased from any particular source. It therefore belongs to common knowledge.

Generally, if a student writes while looking at a source or while looking at notes taken from a source, a footnote should be given.

Whenever any idea is taken from a specific work, even when the student writes the idea entirely in his own words, there must be a footnote giving credit to the author responsible for the idea. Of course methods of documentation vary, and it is possible to cite in the text itself rather than a footnote. The point is that the student should give credit when credit is due and that he should give the credit in a manner specified by the instructor or the department.

The student is entirely responsible for knowing and following the principles of paraphrasing. "In paraphrasing you are expressing the ideas of another writer in your own words. A good paraphrase preserves the sense of the original, but not the form. It does not retain the sentence patterns and merely substitute synonyms for the original words, nor does it retain the original words and merely alter the sentence patterns. It is a genuine restatement. Invariably it should be briefer than the source."\*

\* Floyd C. Watkins, William B. Dillingham, and Edwin T. Martin, *Practical English Handbook*, 3rd ed. (Boston, 1970), p. 245.

Any direct quotation should be footnoted (or documented in any acceptable fashion). Even when a student uses only one unusual or key word from a passage, that word should be quoted. If a brief phrase that is common is used as it occurs in a source, the words should be in quotation marks. The source of every quotation should be given in a footnote or in the prescribed manner.

It is of course the prerogative of the instructor to prescribe that no secondary sources may be used for particular papers.

A student who uses a secondary source must remember that the very act of looking up a book or an article should be considered as a pledge that the student will use the material according to the principles stated above.

Also, Creative Writing majors and students should take note that NO paraphrasing or use of second sources is permitted in creative writing.

## **Libraries**

Creative Writing students at Emory have at their command an ever-growing collection of primary and secondary works, and electronic resources. The Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, located on the 10th floor of the Woodruff Library, houses old and rare books and the papers of historic and literary figures. Emory's acquisition of the Raymond Danowski Poetry Library is of major importance to writers and scholars the world over. Also stand-outs at the Rose Library: manuscripts of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the African American Studies Collection, and the archive of Anglo-Irish literature.

Some tips on using the libraries:

Remember those movies when a lost soul in the desert finally stumbles on a watering hole? Reference librarians are the human version of watering holes. They can answer your questions; help you frame, and refine, your search; and open up a world of specialized resources, including bibliographies, indexes, databases, digital archives, and electronic journals.

The Reference Desk offers short sessions in bibliographical studies in conjunction with particular courses, at the instructor's request.

The Emory Center for Digital Scholarship and the Beck Center provide the latest equipment and expertise in computer-related technology.

Emory has a growing collection of microfilm texts. A number of newspapers and journals are also available on microfilm.

Students in the honors program may apply for a carrel in Woodruff Library and have a quiet place for reading and writing. Application should be made at the Circulation Department.

## **After Emory . . . what next?**

The most regretful people on earth are those  
who felt the call to creative work, who felt  
their own creative power restive and uprising,  
and gave it neither power nor time.

—Mary Oliver



## Graduate Programs in Creative Writing

Every year some of our majors apply to graduate writing programs, most of which award a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree. If you are thinking of pursuing an MFA, producing excellent creative work as an undergraduate is an important first step. Graduate writing programs look for writers who have mastered the fundamentals of craft in a particular genre, and show serious promise of developing beyond that. Students whose coursework has been challenging are in the best position when applying to graduate writing programs.

If you're thinking about applying to MFA programs, talk to your advisor, or other Creative Writing faculty. A conversation about why you want to go, the potential benefits and costs, the impact the degree may (or may not) have on your future is definitely a conversation worth having.

MFA applications are due in January or February of your senior year, so if you're planning to attend a program the fall after you graduate, you need to begin to prepare your junior year. As a first step, you should go online to the AWP Guide to Writing Programs (<https://www.awpwriter.org/guide/overview>). It includes detailed listings for graduate writing programs, including information about application deadlines, faculty, requirements for graduation, and fellowship and grants available to entering writers.

Some factors to consider in choosing a school:

\*Where is it? There's an MFA program in almost every imaginable setting in the United States. Think about where you want to live—or can stand to live—for two or three years, and why, and about the impact on your writing a particular location may have. Will you get more work done in a town with only one movie theater? Or will you spend every moment checking the airline for flights to NYC?

\*Cost. What kind of fellowships/grants/awards does the MFA program offer? Will you have a chance to teach in return for a break on tuition? Are there other job opportunities in the area? How expensive will it be to live?

\*Faculty. Which writers do you want to learn from? Where do they teach? How often? What do the students in a program have to say about the faculty? Is the school in a place that attracts good visiting faculty?

\*Program requirements. Is the emphasis on writing, and writing alone? Or writing and the study of literature? Writing and other graduate course work? What's required for graduation? A thesis/body of creative work? A reading exam? Both? Are you expected to focus on one genre? Encouraged to take classes in other genres?

\*Students. What's an "average" entering class of MFA students look like at a school you're considering? Age? Background? Writing experience?

\*Resources. Is there is a literary magazine you can work on? A writer's conference that brings well-known writers to campus? Opportunities for networking?

\*Atmosphere. Are students treated with respect? Encouraged, but pushed to excel? How are workshops run?

Catalogs for many universities that offer MFA programs are available in the Reference Department of Woodruff Library and each MFA program will also have its information available online. Most schools now have an online application process and you should visit the schools' websites as early as possible. The Graduate Record Examination, which many schools require for admission or fellowships, is given periodically at Emory; consult the Emory Graduate School office for time, place, and cost.

AWP, the Association of Writers and Writing Programs, is the professional organization of undergraduate and graduate writing programs in the United States. As a member organization, Emory receives copies of each issue of the AWP's *The Writer's Chronicle*, the organization's magazine, and copies are available at the Creative Writing Program office. Reading *The Writer's Chronicle* is a way to begin familiarizing yourself with the public world of writers.

## **Career Opportunities and Placement**

Just as learning to write is a process, so is preparing yourself for a career. Neither is best left to spring of your senior year. Emory's Creative Writing majors are, among other things, lawyers, doctors, scholars, teachers, translators, public health administrators, and, of course, working writers. They're also graduate students in MFA programs in writing, PhD programs in English and other specialized fields, and a variety of professional programs. An undergraduate degree in Creative Writing emphasizes language and analytical skills and, as such, is excellent preparation for almost any field. From the moment they declare a major, most of our students carry on conversations with faculty about what they'd like to do after graduation from Emory.

## **Internships**

The internship program in English (ENG 496R) offers you an opportunity to earn for work done off-campus with firms and organizations in the Atlanta area and occasionally elsewhere. The English Department's website has a page describing the internship program: <http://english.emory.edu/home/undergraduate/academic-opportunities/internships.html>.

Limited to English and Creative Writing majors in their last three semesters of residence, the internship allows one to apply the research and writing skills which the study of literature normally develops in an employment situation where those skills are highly valued: newspaper and magazine work, advertising and public relations, broadcasting, legal research,

and corporate communications, to name a few. Interns have in the past worked at CNN, the Woodruff Arts Center, Atlanta Magazine, and numerous local broadcasting and publishing companies.

Internships acquaint students with practical extensions of a liberal arts education. English and Creative Writing majors usually develop some genuinely marketable skills, such as the ability to analyze written materials carefully, knowledge of research techniques, and proven expertise in writing the English language. An internship may open a window for you onto the world beyond the campus and help prepare you for the transition from academic life to business or professional life. Choose an internship carefully by using the resources at the Emory Career Center and by networking with friends and any professional contacts you may have.

**Eligibility:** The internship is open to regular English and Creative Writing majors in their last three semesters of residence. Applicants must have a good academic record, particularly in Creative Writing and English courses. An important criterion for selection is proven ability to write clear, readable English. Admission to the program depends upon the availability of a placement to match a student's particular qualifications and needs. Applications must be completed before the end of Add/Drop for the semester when the internship will take place. Students interested in an internship should meet with Professor Paul Kelleher (pkelleh@emory.edu), director of the Internship Program.

**Academic Credit:** Interns may receive up to 12 hours of academic credit in English 496R, but no more than four hours in any one semester. (Please note: no internship hours may be counted toward the English or the Creative Writing majors.) Students are strongly advised to exercise the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option for Internships. Internships performed over the summer may qualify for one credit hour, to be applied to the fall schedule.

**Internship Requirements:**

Requirements vary depending on which program the student elects and the particular nature of a given internship. In general, however, the intern must:

- \* Receive a rating of satisfactory or better in a written report on performance submitted by the employer or supervisor at the end of the internship period
- \* Present a copy of actual projects or papers, or the results of work performed, to the coordinator for evaluation
- \* Turn in a written appraisal of his or her work experience (a kind of self-study.)

Summer internships are offered through Emory College (not the English Department). If you wish to do a summer internship, application information is available on the Emory College webpage at <http://college.emory.edu/oue/academic-programs/internships/>.

## Career Center

The goal of the Emory University Career Center is to advise and assist undergraduate students and recent graduates (up to 2 years out) about career decision-making, employment opportunities, academic programs and internships that will enhance their skill set (at no charge to the student). The Career Center also assists and develops relationships with employers and graduate schools wishing to recruit Emory students and alumni.

The Career Center provides the tools necessary for students to succeed through counseling, workshops, mock interviews, career panels, alumni networking nights, employer recruiting & development, pre-professional advising, alumni relations, internships, self-assessment and career research. Each year, there are multiple events offered that are relevant to Creative Writing majors, including writing-related career paths.

The Career Center also helps students find part-time and summer employment. Work-Study students may find on-campus jobs via Handshake, Emory's job and internship database.

The "point person" at the Career Center for Creative Writing majors is Beth White. She can be contacted via e-mail ([bwils02@emory.edu](mailto:bwils02@emory.edu)) or phone: 404-727-6211. Please see a detailed calendar of fall and spring programs, as well as in depth information about Career Center resources on the website: [www.career.emory.edu](http://www.career.emory.edu)

APPLICATION FOR CREATIVE WRITING CLASSES, FALL 2021

**Applications should be submitted via e-mail to [nora.lewis@emory.edu](mailto:nora.lewis@emory.edu) in WORD FORMAT. If you are submitting a writing sample, attach it to the application and send as ONE DOCUMENT IN WORD FORMAT.**

**You will be notified via e-mail on your acceptance into the class. Fall 2021 course atlas: [http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/academics/fall 2021 course atlas.html](http://creativewriting.emory.edu/home/academics/fall%202021%20course%20atlas.html)**

**The subject line of your e-mail to [nora.lewis@emory.edu](mailto:nora.lewis@emory.edu) should read “Fall 2021 Application-YOUR NAME”**

YOU CANNOT REGISTER WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM.

ACCEPTED STUDENTS MUST OBTAIN AN OPUS PERMISSION NUMBER IN ORDER TO REGISTER. (Permission numbers may be obtained by e-mailing [nora.lewis@emory.edu](mailto:nora.lewis@emory.edu).)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ID# \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Non-majors may enroll in only one Creative Writing class per semester. Majors who wish to take a second workshop must obtain permission from the Program by e-mailing Nora Lewis at [nora.lewis@emory.edu](mailto:nora.lewis@emory.edu). Explain in your e-mail why you need to take two workshops and your intent to do so, the two workshops you intend to take and a list of workshops already taken. If you want two workshops, you must fill out a separate application for each.**

PLEASE INFORM US IF YOU DECIDE NOT TO TAKE A CREATIVE WRITING COURSE AFTER SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION OR AFTER ACCEPTANCE. OTHERWISE YOU WILL PREVENT ANOTHER STUDENT FROM FILLING THE AVAILABLE SPACE.

SINCE CLASS SPACE IS LIMITED, BE SURE TO SPECIFY A SECOND CHOICE

I wish to enroll in (fill in the course name and section by day, time and teacher's name):

\_\_\_\_\_

My second choice is: \_\_\_\_\_

My major (or double major) is (please write “undeclared” if you have not yet declared) :

\_\_\_\_\_

Next semester I will be a (highlight or underline one):      freshman      sophomore      junior      senior

List the Creative Writing classes you have taken at Emory, **including the semester and the instructor**. If you've taken a Creative Writing class at another university, include that information here.

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you created original written work in any genre? If so, what kind and how much?

\_\_\_\_\_

What is the reason you want (or need) to take this course? Mention any particulars we should take into consideration.