

2019-2020 Graduate Calendar

The information published in this Graduate Calendar outlines the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for the 2019-2020 academic year, including the Summer Semester 2019, Fall Semester 2019 and the Winter Semester 2020.

For your convenience the Graduate Calendar is available in PDF format.

If you wish to link to the Graduate Calendar please refer to the [Linking Guidelines](#).

The University is a full member of:

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The logo for the University of Guelph, featuring the text "UNIVERSITY of GUELPH" in a stylized font.The tagline "CHANGING LIVES IMPROVING LIFE" in a bold, sans-serif font, set against a yellow background.

Disclaimer

The Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies has attempted to ensure the accuracy of this on-line Graduate Calendar. However, the publication of information in this document does not bind the university to the provision of courses, programs, schedules of studies, fees, or facilities as listed herein.

Limitations

The University of Guelph reserves the right to change without notice any information contained in this calendar, including any rule or regulation pertaining to the standards for admission to, the requirements for the continuation of study in, and the requirements for the granting of degrees or diplomas in any or all of its programs.

The university will not be liable for any interruption in, or cancellation of, any academic activities as set forth in this calendar and related information where such interruption is caused by fire, strike, lock-out, inability to procure materials or trades, restrictive laws or governmental regulations, actions taken by the faculty, staff or students of the university or by others, civil unrest or disobedience, Public Health Emergencies, or any other cause of any kind beyond the reasonable control of the university.

The University of Guelph reaffirms section 1 of the Ontario Human Rights Code, 1981, which prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, handicap, age, marital status or family status.

The university encourages applications from women, aboriginal peoples, visible minorities, persons with disabilities, and members of other under-represented groups.

Introduction

Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Information

Personal information is collected under the authority of the University of Guelph Act (1964), and in accordance with Ontario's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/DBLaws/Statutes/English/90f31_e.htm. This information is used by University officials in order to carry out their authorized academic and administrative responsibilities and also to establish a relationship for alumni and development purposes. Certain personal information is disclosed to external agencies, including the Ontario Universities Application Centre, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development, and Statistics Canada, for statistical and planning purposes, and is disclosed to other individuals or organizations in accordance with the Office of Registrarial Services Departmental Policy on the Release of Student Information. For details on the use and disclosure of this information call the Office of Registrarial Services at the University at (519) 824-4120 or see <https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/>

Statistics Canada - Notification of Disclosure

For further information, please see Statistics Canada's web site at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca> and Section XIV Statistics Canada.

Address for University Communication

Depending on the nature and timing of the communication, the University may use one of these addresses to communicate with students. Students are, therefore, responsible for checking all of the following on a regular basis:

Email Address

The University issued email address is considered an official means of communication with the student and will be used for correspondence from the University. Students are responsible for monitoring their University-issued email account regularly.

Home Address

Students are responsible for maintaining a current mailing address with the University. Address changes can be made, in writing, through Registrarial Services.

Name Changes

The University of Guelph is committed to the integrity of its student records, therefore, each student is required to provide either on application for admission or on personal data forms required for registration, their complete, legal name. Any requests to change a name, by means of alteration, deletion, substitution or addition, must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation.

Student Confidentiality and Release of Student Information Policy Excerpt

The University undertakes to protect the privacy of each student and the confidentiality of their record. To this end the University shall refuse to disclose personal information to any person other than the individual to whom the information relates where disclosure would constitute an unjustified invasion of the personal privacy of that person or of any other individual. All members of the University community must respect the confidential nature of the student information which they acquire in the course of their work.

Complete policy at <https://www.uoguelph.ca/secretariat/office-services/university-secretariat/university-policies>.

Learning Outcomes

Graduate Degree Learning Outcomes

On May 27, 2013, the University of Guelph Senate approved the following five University-wide Learning Outcomes as the basis from which to guide the development of graduate degree programs, specializations and courses:

1. Critical and Creative Thinking
2. Literacy
3. Global Understanding
4. Communication
5. Professional and Ethical Behaviour

These learning outcomes are also intended to serve as a framework through which our educational expectations are clear to students and the broader public; and to inform the process of outcomes assessment through the quality assurance process (regular reviews) of programs and departments.

An on-line guide to the learning outcomes, links to the associated skills, and detailed rubrics designed to support the development and assessment of additional program and discipline-specific outcomes, are available for reference on the [Learning Outcomes website](#)

Critical and Creative Thinking

Critical and creative thinking is a concept in which one applies logical principles, after much inquiry and analysis, to solve problems with a high degree of innovation, divergent thinking and risk taking. Those mastering this outcome show evidence of integrating knowledge and applying this knowledge across disciplinary boundaries. Depth and breadth of understanding of disciplines is essential to this outcome. At the graduate level, originality in the application of knowledge (master's) and undertaking of research (doctoral) is expected.

In addition, Critical and Creative Thinking includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Independent Inquiry and Analysis; Problem Solving; Creativity; and Depth and Breadth of Understanding.

Literacy

Literacy is the ability to extract information from a variety of resources, assess the quality and validity of the material, and use it to discover new knowledge. The comfort in using quantitative literacy also exists in this definition, as does using technology effectively and developing visual literacy.

In addition, Literacy includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Information Literacy, Quantitative Literacy, Technological Literacy, and Visual Literacy.

Global Understanding

Global understanding encompasses the knowledge of cultural similarities and differences, the context (historical, geographical, political and environmental) from which these arise, and how they are manifest in modern society. Global understanding is exercised as civic engagement, intercultural competence and the ability to understand an academic discipline outside of the domestic context.

In addition, Global Understanding includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Global Understanding, Sense of Historical Development, Civic Knowledge and Engagement, and Intercultural Competence.

Communication

Communication is the ability to interact effectively with a variety of individuals and groups, and convey information successfully in a variety of formats including oral and written communication. Communication also comprises attentiveness and listening, as well as reading comprehension. It includes the ability to communicate and synthesize information, arguments, and analyses accurately and reliably.

In addition, Communication includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Oral Communication, Written Communication, Reading Comprehension, and Integrative Communication.

Professional and Ethical Behaviour

Professional and ethical behaviour requires the ability to accomplish the tasks at hand with proficient skills in teamwork and leadership, while remembering ethical reasoning behind all decisions. The ability for organizational and time management skills is essential in bringing together all aspects of managing self and others. Academic integrity is central to mastery in this outcome. At the graduate level, intellectual independence is needed for professional and academic development and engagement.

In addition, Professional and Ethical Behaviour includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Teamwork, Ethical Reasoning, Leadership, Personal Organization and Time Management, and Intellectual Independence.

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Creative Writing

The Master of Fine Arts (MFA) Program in Creative Writing is designed to prepare students for careers in creative writing, by exploring and developing their skills as writers, and providing them with a wide range of opportunities to connect with the arts and culture community. Critically acclaimed writers and literary professionals participate in the program as workshop instructors, mentors and visitors. Through its master classes, workshops and plenary courses, the MFA Program aims to assist new writers in locating their work in both a global and a national context. Students will pursue the program on a full-time basis. The program has been designed to facilitate completion within two years.

Administrative Staff

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BA Yale - Assistant Professor

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Associated Graduate Faculty

Margaret Christakos

Poet

Karen Connelly

Author

Kevin Connolly

BA York - Poet

Camilla Gibb

BA Toronto, DPhil Oxford - June Callwood Professor, Victoria College, Univ. of Toronto

Hoa Nguyen

Poet

Kathryn Kuitenbrouwer

BA Ottawa - Writer

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BA Toronto, MA, OISE - Writer

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BFA Western, MA Guelph - Writer

Michael Redhill

BA Toronto - Writer

Russell Smith

Writer

Susan Swan

BA McGill - Author

Souvankham Thammavongsa

Writer

Michael Winter

Writer

MFA Program

Admission Requirements

The normal minimum requirement for admission to the MFA Program is a baccalaureate degree, in an honours program or the equivalent, from a recognized degree-granting institution. There are no requirements as to the discipline in which the degree was earned. Successful applicants will be expected to have achieved an average standing of at least a 'B-' in their last four semesters of study. A limited number of students, however, may be admitted to the MFA without having satisfied the degree requirement and/or academic standing requirements set out above if they are assessed as qualified to undertake graduate studies in creative writing on the basis of other experience and/or practice.

Admissions Portfolio

Students will be selected for admission to the MFA program primarily on the basis of a portfolio. The portfolio should be between 25 and 40 pages in length and may contain published and/or unpublished work and/or work-in-progress. It must include a minimum of two separate works (or excerpts from separate works). Applicants are encouraged to submit works in more than one genre, e.g., fiction and poetry. Considerations of balance over the program as a whole, with respect to genres in which applicants are particularly interested and particularly strong, will have some impact on admission decisions.

Program Requirements

Students will take one workshop and one plenary course in the first (Fall) semester of study; one workshop in the second (Winter) semester; the individual study course in the third (Summer) semester; and one workshop and a second plenary course in the fourth (Fall) semester. The remaining two semesters of the two-year program will be devoted to the thesis. With permission, MFA students may choose to take one or two courses at the University of Guelph - e.g., MA courses in the School of English and Theatre Studies. All students will be required to complete at least six semesters of study.

Plenary Courses

There are two Plenary courses, CRWR*6000 and CRWR*6010, and both are required courses for MFA students. Plenary courses will be offered on an alternate-year basis in the Fall semester, allowing students to take one in the Fall semester of their first year, and one in the Fall semester of their second year. These courses are intended in part to provide a forum for visiting writers and other literary professionals. Each course will also have a substantial component addressing practical matters associated with the progress of a writer's career.

Workshops

Students are required to take three workshops over the course of the program; the genres in which workshops will be offered are fiction, poetry, drama, and creative non-fiction. Students are also required to ensure through their selection of workshops that they work in a minimum of two separate genres and are strongly encouraged to take workshops that include work in at least three genres. The workshops will be strongly focused on writing, but each will also incorporate a substantial reading component.

Individual Study Course

The individual study course, required in the third (Summer) semester of the program, pairs each student with a mentor. It is intended to install within the curriculum a critical opportunity to address the variable learning needs of individual students. For the majority of students, it will be an intensive writing course, supplemented by a reading component that allows for additional work in the student's primary genre and offers the chance to build a body of work towards the thesis. For some students, it may be primarily a reading course, with practice in writing in relation to particular models, or provide an opportunity to develop a significant project in a secondary genre.

Procedures

Candidates should be aware of the deadlines schedule, a copy of which may be obtained in the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Please note, the Creative Writing MFA program has also implemented internal expectations/deadlines that must be adhered to by the candidate; these internal expectations/deadlines are distributed by the Graduate Program Coordinator.

Following the master's examination, the candidate, if successful, will submit the creative thesis to the the Atrium; it will be retained permanently by the university.

Thesis

The thesis is the single most important component of the MFA Program. Students should register for UNIV*7500 in each semester that they are writing their thesis. The thesis may be a novel, a book-length manuscript of poems, a collection of short stories, a full-length play or screenplay, or a work of creative non-fiction. The standard to be applied is that the thesis should not be a first draft but have undergone significant revision and be approaching publishable quality in the estimation of the examiners.

Master's Examination

The Creative Writing MFA Examination Committee normally consists of three members appointed by the Department Chair:

- a member of the regular graduate faculty of the school or retired faculty with Associated Graduate Faculty status who is not a member of the Advisory Committee, and who acts as chair of the master's Examination Committee and to make arrangements therefor;
- a member of the candidate's Advisory Committee (normally, the Advisor);
- a member of the graduate faculty who may be a member of the Advisory Committee (normally, the second reader).

Note

The Chair serves to administer and ensure the proper conduct of the examination. The Chair is expected to exercise full control over the proceedings and does not participate directly in questioning the candidate during the examination. In unforeseen circumstances where an examiner is unable to attend due to sudden illness, accident, etc., the Chair will attempt to receive questions to ask on behalf of the absent member, to be answered by the student to the satisfaction of the examiners.

At the time of the defence, the Creative Writing MFA candidate will be expected successfully to complete a final oral examination devoted chiefly to the creative thesis: the candidate should display a sophisticated critical awareness of their own creative practice.

The examination is open to the public; members of the audience may question the candidate only upon invitation of the Chair of the committee.

The Graduate Program Coordinator is responsible for notifying the Assistant Vice-President (Graduate Studies) of the composition of the committee, and for reporting to the Assistant Vice-President (Graduate Studies) the outcome of the examination.

The examination is passed and the creative thesis approved if there is no more than one negative vote. An abstention is regarded as a negative vote. The report to the Assistant Vice-President (Graduate Studies) will record the decision as unsatisfactory or satisfactory. If unsatisfactory, the candidate may be given the opportunity of a second attempt. A second unsatisfactory result constitutes a recommendation to the Board of Graduate Studies that the student be required to withdraw (see Unsatisfactory Progress and Appeals of Decisions).

Copies of the Creative Thesis

One electronic (.pdf) copy of the certified creative thesis must be submitted to the Atrium by the thesis submission deadline date shown in the Academic Schedule in the calendar. Also included in the electronic submission must be a brief abstract consisting of no more than 150 words. The Certificate of Approval signed by the Examination Committee, a copy of the circulation waiver, and the copying license must also be submitted to the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Departments may have a requirement to submit a bound copy of the thesis.

School Regulations

The school may have specified regulations in addition to those described in this calendar. The student is responsible for consulting the school concerning any such regulation. University regulations, as specified herein, take precedence and may not be overruled by any school regulation.

Courses

For courses without a semester designation the student should consult the Associate Coordinator or Assistant to the Associate Coordinator.

CRWR*6000 Plenary Course: Writers on Writing F [0.50]

This required plenary course addresses important historical and contemporary perspectives on creative writing as an art, a practice, and a profession. Readings, discussion and visits from writers and other literary professionals will help students to articulate effectively their own literary aesthetic and to develop professional skills.

Restriction(s): MFA.CW students only

Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies

CRWR*6010 Plenary Course: Writers in the World F [0.50]

This required plenary course addresses changing and conflicting ideas about the responsibilities of the writer in the world. Readings, discussion, and visits from writers and other literary professionals will help students to articulate effectively their own positions and to develop professional skills.

Restriction(s): MFA.CW students only

Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies

CRWR*6100 Poetry Workshop F-W [0.50]

The Poetry Workshop engages students in an intensive program of reading and writing work. The workshops will be strongly focused on writing and on responding to the work of students in the course with productive, constructive criticism. Students will have the opportunity to work closely with a nationally recognized poet to develop their own skills as poets and editors. Students are expected to read widely and to develop their understanding of the technical aspects of their craft.

Restriction(s): MFA.CW students only

Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies

CRWR*6200 Fiction Workshop F-W [0.50]

The Fiction Workshop engages students in an intensive program of reading and writing work. The workshops will be strongly focused on writing and on responding to the work of students in the course with productive, constructive criticism. Students will have the opportunity to work closely with a nationally recognized author to develop their skills as writers and editors. Students are expected to read widely and to develop their understanding of the technical aspects of their craft.

Restriction(s): MFA.CW students only

Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies

CRWR*6220 Writing the Decolonial-Fiction U [0.50]

This course teaches writers to approach writing as a conscious engagement with social and political worlds. Students will pay close critical attention to questions of Decolonial thought and race as they are expressed in the structure, narrative arc, character, voice and geographies of writing.

Offering(s): Annually

Restriction(s): MFA.CW students only

Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies

CRWR*6240 Hybrid Forms and Mixed-Mode Narratives U [0.50]

This course focuses on narrative that experiments with generic boundaries and received forms. Students will examine the use of multiple narrative lines and blended modes (poetry, fiction, nonfiction, graphic narrative) to deepen meaning and amplify personal-social intersections, including with the natural world.

Offering(s): Alternate Years

Restriction(s): MFA.CW students only

Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies

CRWR*6300 Drama Workshop U [0.50]

The Drama Workshop engages students in an intensive program of writing and reading work. Students will produce a substantial amount of dramatic writing and will also provide constructive criticism of the work of other workshop participants. Required reading will cover a wide range of dramatic literature and the study of dramatic forms and techniques.

Restriction(s): MFA.CW students only

Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies

CRWR*6400 Practicum in Creative Writing U [0.50]

In this course of guided study, the student will work on a creative project with a mentor who is a recognized member of the professional writing community.

Restriction(s): MFA.CW students only

Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies

CRWR*6500 Non-Fiction Workshop U [0.50]

The Non-Fiction Workshop engages students in a reading and writing intensive program of creative non-fiction. The workshops will be strongly focused on writing and will involve the creation and revision of a substantial body of new work in the genre, as well as critiquing the work of other students in the course. The reading component will focus on texts from a varied social and cultural range (e.g. family memoir, travel narrative, cultural memoir, themed meditation).

Restriction(s): MFA.CW students only

Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies

CRWR*6600 Special Topics in Creative Writing U [0.50]

A variable-content course focusing on a particular issue or approach to writing within one genre of creative writing (fiction, poetry, drama, etc.) or a particular issue or approach to writing that is at work across multiple genres.

Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies