

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF ARTS

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing in English

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

The MFA in Creative Writing in English in the Faculty of Arts offers students flexibility of contemporary voice in multilingual contexts through intense studies, including foundations and historical modes. Workshops, practice, and performance for the MFA programme are centered at the HKU Black Box throughout the year. A unique and customized combination of coursework, studios, and individual advising provides each student opportunities to explore creative writing, creative design practices, and the wider impact of a writer's "built environment" on global audiences. By the end of the study, students will acquire lifelong practices and mastery and develop an original Creative Thesis drafted and revised for potential publication. The programme consists of four compulsory 6-credit courses, two compulsory 9-credit courses, and an 18-credit Creative Thesis (capstone experience). The programme has a total study load of 1,200 hours, of which 395 are contact hours.

1. Compulsory Courses (two 9-credit courses and four 6-credit courses)

These courses cover historical foundations and contemporary approaches to creative writing, with a special focus on the emerging multilingual and global writer. At the same time, the foundations will introduce integrated practices and strategies with fellow writers and artists around the world and in the HKU Black Box. Students study readings and research, design and craft, history and contemporary issues in the field. Further, student will learn to navigate both small and large junctures of revision and editing toward a major work of original writing in the Creative Thesis.

A total of 120 hours of student learning activity (including 50 contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity) is the norm for a 6-credit course. Students must complete 180 hours of student learning activity (including 50 contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity) for a 9-credit course.

Assessment for Compulsory Courses is by 100% coursework that may take the form of reading and writing practices, written assignments, excerpts, craft reviews and response papers with a total output of approximately 3,750 words (6-credit courses) and 5,000 words (9-credit courses).

2. Capstone Experience: Creative Thesis (one 18-credit course)

Each individual Creative Thesis, initiated in the first semester of full-time study or the third semester of part-time study and completed during the second semester of full-time study or the fourth semester of part-time study, provides a writer with an opportunity to develop an original body of creative writing in a field of interest under individual supervision by acquiring the essential skills, research and craft. Students are expected to spend much of their time on independent research and writing toward the original body of work. A study load of 360 hours of which 95 are contact hours are expected.

Assessment is by 100% coursework including an original Creative Thesis of a minimum of 16,000 words.