



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

Coláiste na nDán, na nEolaíochtaí
Sóisialta & an Léinn Cheiltigh
College of Arts, Social Sciences
& Celtic Studies

BA (English and Creative Writing)



University
of Galway.ie

Course Overview

This course builds and expands on over a decade's worth of experience in directing and fostering undergraduate talent specifically in Creative Writing at University of Galway. It provides a unique opportunity for students with an aptitude and passion for literary expression, and in keeping with the principle that 'writers learn to write by writing', the emphasis throughout is on practice-based learning and experience.

You will study and practice all the major genres of Creative Writing: Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, Playwriting, Screenwriting. Within these broader genres, you will be helped discover, experiment with and strengthen your own individual strands of interest.

Course Name: BA (English and Creative Writing)

CAO Code: GY111

Course Level: 8

Duration: 4 years

Min Entry Points 2026: 413

Entry Requirements: Minimum Grade H5 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at O6/H7 Grades in the Leaving Certificate including Irish, English, another language, and three other subjects recognised for entry purposes.



Career Opportunities

With a comparatively high proportion of our students attaining first-class honours degrees (typically 30-40% of the class), this course will help open doors of employment for you in all those fields where written communication is important. You will have fostered the talent, imagination and professionalism necessary to be a published author and you may consider a career as one.

The skills you will acquire are applicable to a wide range of careers and creative fields, for example in teaching, editing, publishing and other literary professions, advertising and copy-writing, games writing and narrative design, and the existing and ever-expanding areas in media, journalism and public engagement.

Work Placement

While mentorship with professional writers is the prime work experience for our Creative Writing students, other forms of work placement are possible. Your third year provides a major opportunity for guided self-directed learning, and prospects for additional placements can be discussed in advance with your course director and/or mentor.

Study Abroad

If you are studying a language with English and Creative Writing, Erasmus exchanges with European universities are possible; the Creative Writing study path you take abroad will be discussed in advance with your course director. Non-language students may also avail of an exchange with an English-speaking university abroad, most typically in the USA or Canada.

Course Outline

Year One

You will study Creative Writing, English, and one other Arts subject. The focus in Creative Writing will be on the practice of Fiction and Nonfiction, and there will also be a weekly visiting-speaker series.

Year Two

You will study Creative Writing, English, and your other chosen Arts subject. For Creative Writing, Second Year concentrates on the writing of Poetry, Plays and Screenplays.

Year Three

Your Creative Writing work will be the exclusive focus, through mentored, independent project(s) and/or study abroad and/or work placement.

Year Four

Completion of your studies in Creative Writing, English and your other subject. For Creative Writing, your classes will centre on project and portfolio consolidation, professionalisation and publication planning.

Timetable and Assessment

You will typically be expected to spend 40 hours a week all-in focused on your own work as structured via lectures, seminars and workshop classes. For the Creative Writing strand, all grading is by continuous assessment and/or portfolio work.

Why Choose This Course?

- This course builds and expands on over a decade's worth of experience in directing and fostering undergraduate talent, specifically in Creative Writing.
- It provides a unique opportunity for students with an aptitude and passion for literary expression.
- In keeping with the principle that 'writers learn to write by writing', the emphasis throughout is on practice-based learning and experience.
- Every week during first year a speaker from the writing professions visits the class for discussions, Q & A, and informal conversation.
- The course's third year provides for a 100% focus on your personal Creative Writing project(s).

Find Out More

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