Year of entry: 2021/22



Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London					
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College					
3	Programme Title(s)	MA Creative Writing					
4	Programme Code(s)	TMACWRIT_C					
5	UCAS code	N/A					
6	Home Department	English, Theatre and Creative Writing					
7	Exit Award(s)	PG Dip, PG Cert					
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 year full-time; 2 years part-time					
9	Mode of Study	FT	✓	PT	✓	DL	
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7					
11	Other teaching depts or institution	N/A					
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A					
13	QAA Benchmark Statement	N/A					

14 | Programme Rationale & Aims

The aims of the programme are to enable students to:

Develop to a professional level the craft of writing in a particular genre.

Develop confidence, sensitivity and discernment in their analysis of their own and their fellow students' work.

Develop a greater critical understanding of contemporary literary developments.

Place their own writing in the context of developments in contemporary fiction.

Develop to professional level skill in editing of both their own and fellow students' creative work.

Gain a greater practical knowledge and understanding of the markets for fiction.

Complete under supervision a creative dissertation of high literary quality.

¹⁵ Entry Criteria

A second-class honours degree (2:2 or above). This requirement may be waived if a candidate can demonstrate exceptional talent.

A portfolio of writing of around 5000 words and a personal statement (to be submitted with the application form). Students are selected on the basis of their portfolio and statement, an interview (selected candidates only) and their degree.

International Students Entry Requirements:

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If English is not their first language or they have not previously studied in English, the requirement for this programme is the equivalent of an International English Language Testing System (IELTS Academic Test) score of 7.0, with not less than 6.5 in each of the subtests.

16 Learning Outcomes

By the end of the programme students will have:

Developed the skills and techniques involved in writing in a particular genre and in completing a substantial creative dissertation

Developed a critical understanding of literary writing through study of contemporary movements and theory, close readings of individual texts and by placing their own work in relation to contemporary writers

Gained practical knowledge of the publishing industry by learning how to present and market your creative work.

Completed and submitted for assessment a creative writing portfolio.

Learning, teaching and assessment methods

Teaching is seminar-based. Each session is generally two to three hours, and there are further regular one-to-one tutorials throughout the year.

There is a Non-Assessed Lecture series in the Summer Term and all assessed work is written, and is marked through Turnitin.

¹⁸ Programme Description

Students take two compulsory 30-credit taught modules, and two optional 30 credit taught modules from a range of modules approved by the department. Students also undertake a 60-credit dissertation and must achieve 180 credits for the award of the Masters degree.

19 Programme Structure

Full-Time programme – 1 year

Year 1

Level	Module Code	e Module Title Credits		Status*	
7	ENHU036S7	Writing and Reading Seminar	30	Compulsory	
7	ENHU039S7	The Writing Workshop	30	Compulsory	
7		Option 1	30	Option	
7		Option 2	30	Option	
7	ENHU002D7	Dissertation	60	Core	

Part-Time programme – 2 years

Year 1

Level	Module Code	Module Title		Status*	
7	ENHU036S7	Writing and Reading Seminar 30 C		Compulsory	
7		Option 1	30	Optional	



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Year 2						
Level	Module Code	ode Module Title Credit		Status*		
7	ENHU039S7	The Writing Workshop	30	Compulsory		
7		Option 2	30	Option		
7	ENHU002D7	Dissertation 60 Core		Core		
Indicative list of optional modules:						
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Credits Status*		
7	ENHU041S7	Genre & Narrative	30	Option		
7	AREN120S7	Contemporary Literature: Poetry	30	Option		
7	ENHU002S7	Creative Non Fiction	30	Option		
7	ENHU040S7	Introduction to Screenwriting	30	Option		
7	ENHU124S7	Introduction to Playwriting	30	Option		

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

20	Programme Director	Julia Bell
21	Start Date (term/year)	October 2003
22	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2003
23	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 2003
24	Date(s) updated/amended	February 2018