# Bachelor of Arts

## Creative Writing

### Major description

The Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Creative Writing is a four-year UBC degree with courses in writing, editing and publishing, spoken word, and community learning. It is designed to build students’ range and confidence to the professional level, while familiarizing them with practical aspects of the writing life. Draw on the imagination to convey meaning through the use of imagery, narrative, and drama in a variety of literary forms including poetry, fiction, plays, new media, screenwriting, and non-fiction.

### Program highlights

- An intimate learning community is a hallmark of the creative writing program. Upper-year classes are capped at 15 students.
- Study under a faculty of award-winning writers dedicated to helping students experiment with their prose and grow as writers.
- Complete a Certificate in Communication and Rhetoric.

### Your career options

Build a broad foundation and great career opportunities that range from arts journalist and web writer, to novelist and publisher.

Visit the Creative Writing webpage and scroll down to the “Your Career Options” heading for more employment information.

### Getting Started

First-year standing

Explore the Creative Writing program by visiting the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies (FCCS) website or reviewing the Academic Calendar.

Learn more about your major requirements by logging into Degree Navigator and reviewing the First-Year Planning Guides.

Book an appointment with an advisor to discuss program or career-related questions. Find the advisor that is right for you by reviewing advising options available.

Visit the Student Learning Hub throughout your degree for free supports from peers and professionals that include tutoring in math, sciences, languages, and writing.

### Moving Through Your Degree

**Second-year standing**

Connect with Academic and Career Advising or the Creative Writing Program Coordinator to declare the Creative Writing major after completing 24 credits.

Explore more FCCS undergraduate studies options to add a minor or find unique courses to fill your elective requirements.

Meet with an instructor or TA during office hours: ask a question, discuss an assignment, or go over lecture material.

International Students: Contact International Student Advising to review your study status.

Considering further education? Find graduate programs at UBCO and beyond. Research application requirements, admissions information, and funding options.

### Moving Through Your Degree

**Third-year standing**

Explore a topic of interest in depth by participating in Undergraduate Research. Apply for an FCCS Undergraduate Research Award to support your research under the supervision of a FCCS faculty member.

Explore co-op opportunities to strengthen your skills and build your work experience by applying to the Co-operative Education Office. Applications open in September to students with 3rd year standing or higher.

Study abroad by participating in Go Global program such as exchange, faculty-led global seminar, or research abroad.

Receive training and support to help develop career and employment readiness by participating in the Arts Career Apprenticeship Program.

### Preparing for Graduation and Your Future

**Fourth-year+ standing**

Market yourself to employers by reflecting on your UBCO experience and identifying the skills and knowledge you developed through the activities you participated in. Meet with a Career Development Specialist for help with your resume, cover letter, and job search strategy.

Schedule an appointment with an advisor the term before you plan to graduate to ensure that you will meet all academic graduation requirements.

Review graduation eligibility requirements and deadlines before you apply to graduate. Learn about conventions.

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**How to use the Program Plan:**

Tuum est! This Program Plan is designed to help shape your UBC experience, challenge yourself to try new things, and become the person and scholar you want to be to help make your time at UBC Okanagan yours. The Program Plan offers suggestions – you don’t have to do it all!

The Program Plan includes four categories:

- **Explore the Major:** Explore what you’ll be studying and learning. Make connections between your program and future career or education opportunities and goals.
- **Connect and Build Community:** Making connections will help develop your support network throughout your studies and beyond.
- **Develop Skills and Gain Relevant Experience:** Expand your capacity to understand the changing world and embrace different perspectives by seeking out new experiences and opportunities.

**Legend**

Experiential Education opportunities are highlighted with a **ymbol.

Plan ahead! Statements highlighted with a **ymbol must be completed during a specific term(s) or have an associated deadline.
Explore Experiential Education
Participate in hands-on, immersive learning experiences.

Explore high-impact, “learn-by-doing” experiences that take your education beyond the classroom. Whether on- or off-campus, paid or volunteer, participating in directed experiences and focused reflection helps to increase knowledge, develop skills, clarify values, and build your capacity to contribute to your communities.

Experiential Education opportunities are highlighted with a 🌍 symbol.

Most opportunities highlighted below can be pursued at any time. Opportunities with timelines or deadlines are noted with a 🕒 symbol.

Getting Started:
Explore new opportunities and interests.

New to UBC?
- Participate in orientation and transition programming to connect with other students and get involved in the campus community.
- Find on-campus events to meet new people and get involved with the campus community using the Events Calendar.
- Meet a Student Connector at Student Connect for help with navigating campus and to learn more about the opportunities available at UBC Okanagan.
- Follow @UBCOShadow on Instagram for campus tips, opportunities, and event updates.

Attend a Heat Varsity Athletics game. Admission is free with your student UBC card.

Develop Interests and Broaden Perspectives:
Get more involved and build your skills and connections.

Branch out, get involved in student life, and have fun by joining a student association or the Creative Writing Course Union to meet peers and participate in events and activities. Follow the Creative Writing program on Facebook to keep up to date on events and connect with our community on campus and beyond.

Build your connections to the community by attending ICICS events and workshops.

Build your networking skills with alumni working in careers in your desired industry by using Ten Thousand Coffees and LinkedIn or by attending career events and workshops.

Commuting? Visit the Creative Writing Okanagan Facebook group to stay up to date on events and connect with our community on campus and beyond.

Planning to live on campus?
- Use the Student Housing Application to reserve a room and secure your spot.
- Use the Events Calendar to find on-campus opportunities for personal and professional development.
- Connect with the Academic & Career Development team for support with exploring opportunities that will help you achieve your career or education goals.

Looking to volunteer, intern, or gain work experience? Assess what experience you have and fill any gaps by participating in Career Development workshops and finding opportunities on the Student & Alumni Job Board.

Apply to the Work Study program to build skills and grow your professional network with paid on-campus positions that work around your class schedule.

Apply to Entrepreneurship@UBCO to explore your start-up ideas through mentorship and training programs.

Book an appointment with a Learning Strategist at any stage in your degree for help with study skills and learning strategies.

Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest by looking at job boards and employer websites.

Summarize and organize your academic and out-of-classroom experiences and accomplishments in a resume, CV, or portfolio with help from a Learning Strategist.

Immersive Experiences:
Take part in unique opportunities and programs. Find ways to immerse yourself in your experiences.

Explore professional associations such as the Professional Writers Association for more information about potential careers, networking and professional development opportunities, and more.

Give back to the campus community by volunteering or applying to work on campus: Student & Alumni Job Board.

Get Involved Program: sign up for volunteer projects in the Okanagan.

Attend Kelowna community events to get connected and learn about different cultures, activities, and experiences that make the Okanagan unique.

Build your cross-cultural skills and intercultural fluency by participating in the Intercultural Development Program.

Join the Get Involved Program: sign up for volunteer projects in the Okanagan.

Undergraduate Programs and Admissions: you.ubc.ca