

Master of Creative Writing

Love writing and reading literature? Challenge yourself to develop your craft and technique in a small community of writers.

Our students undertake intensive practical workshops across a range of genres including short story, novella, novel and poetry and creative non-fiction. You have opportunities to apply your skills in professional context projects, and to value-add to your writing with a suite of editing and publishing units.

2020 PROGRAM

KEY BENEFITS

- Your choice of studying on campus or online
- Flexibility of part-time or full-time study options
- Access to practical, writing intensive units to further develop your skills
- High calibre teachers including winners of university teaching awards and published writers.
- The opportunity to explore and develop your writing in a supportive community.

MASTERS UNITS INCLUDE

CORE 40 credit points

- Creative Writing Seminar 1 (10 cp)
- Writing Creative Non-Fiction: an introduction (10 cp)
- Short Form Writing: short story, novella, poetry cycle (10 cp)
- Literature and Writing in Professional Contexts (10 cp)

ELECTIVE SET 40 credit points, from

- Writing the Past, Building New Worlds (10 cp)
- Digital Creative Writing & Publishing Projects (10 cp)
- Creative Writing Seminar 2 (narrative and poetry) (10 cp)
- Manuscript Project (10 + 10 cp)
- Research units (10 + 10 cp)
- Editing and Publishing units (10 cp each)

APPLYING

Apply through Open Universities Australia (OUA) and email your creative portfolio directly or include in your OUA application.

CREATIVE PORTFOLIO

The portfolio can consist of about 15 pages or more of your recent writing; such as two or three stories, or a chapter or two of a longer work of fiction; a performance work such as a radio or stage play; a dozen poems; or creative non-fiction.

Your portfolio you submit should include what you consider to be your best work. Your creative portfolio need not be published work, though if you have published

creative writing please do let us know in your covering letter, include a copy of a portion of it.

When assessing the creative portfolio we look for work that is interesting, that has a unique voice and a sense of promise: the essentials needed to develop and further your writing skills.

All portfolio submissions must be sent in the following format:

- Via email; or include your portfolio in your OUA application documentations.
- Include a covering letter that briefly discusses your reasons for/interest in applying, along with your name, postal and email address, and
- Typed, double or 1.5 line spacing, 12 pt, on numbered pages, and with your name on each page.
- If sending a published book please include an SSAE of sufficient size and postage for its return.
- Please do not submit factual articles or journalism, or work that was completed as part of previous university course-work, such as essays.
- After we receive both parts of your application we are then able to assess your application. You will receive notification from OUA with the result, as well as an email directly from the University if you are offered a place. The application process should take 2-3 weeks. If you have any concerns, please email or telephone OUA.

Minimum Admission Requirements

RPL available for relevant professional experience or cognate postgraduate studies

Australian level 7 bachelor's qualification or recognised equivalent

Literature, cultural studies, media studies, education (English studies), librarianship, creative arts, or another related discipline.

GRADUATE PROFILES

Rebecca Greensill

"The support and guidance I received at Macquarie was invaluable. Being given feedback from working writers and learning how to make the feedback process work for my writing was instrumental in what I've achieved so far. Whether you're a novelist, screenwriter, playwright or journalist, you always get feedback, and your ability to integrate that feedback whilst retaining your own voice is crucial."

PUBLISHED GRADUATES

- Liane Moriarty
- Mary-Ellen Mullane
- Judith Mendoza-White
- Elizabeth Claire Alberts
- Jeni Mawter
- Tara Crowl
- Irini Savvides
- Angie Rega
- Michelle Hamadache
- Samuel Webster
- Kailash Srinivasan
- Carmel Summers
- Cassandra Dickerson
- Willo Drummond
- John Elder
- Susannah Turner

THIS PROGRAM WILL SUIT

Emerging and aspiring writers, communication professionals wanting to explore and develop their creativity, including editors, manuscript readers, technical writers, journalists, secondary and primary teachers, especially English literature teachers.

CAREERS

Graduates launch new careers or develop and promote their existing careers in the Arts, Media, Education and Training industries, including:

- Book publishing – editing, public relations, and copy editing
- Corporate, technical and copy writing
- Creative authorship – including Creative Nonfiction, YA Fiction, Adult Fiction, Poetry, digital and print forms.
- Secondary, Tertiary and Continuing Education creative writing, literature and English studies teaching
- Travel, social media, health, arts journalism and magazine writing, online and in print
- Theatre and film writing and production

OUR TEACHERS

Staff in the department include award winning writers, researchers and nationally recognised teachers:

- Novelist, radio drama and short story writer Jane Messer (*Hopscotch*, *Provenance* and *Night by Night*)
- Poets, Marcelle Freiman (*White Lines (Vertical)*, *Monkey's Wedding*) and Willo Drummond
- Non-fiction essayists and editors including Michelle Hamadache
- Novelist and historian Hsu-Ming Teo (*Behind the Moon*, *Love* and *Vertigo*).

EXPLORE

Facebook [The Quarry](https://www.facebook.com/TheQuarryJournal/)

<https://www.facebook.com/TheQuarryJournal/>

THE QUARRY

The Department's online journal of student creative writing, The Quarry launched in 2012. Each issue is published by a small team of student editors, with writing by current students and creative writing alumni. We offer internship opportunities for our students to hone your editing and production skills. See the work produced by students at thequarryjournal.com

From the [Lighthouse](https://www.fromthelighthouse.org/) podcasts

<https://www.fromthelighthouse.org/>

Twitter [@MQEnglish](https://twitter.com/MQEnglish)

FIND OUT MORE

Email: Associate Professor Jane Messer, jane.messer@mq.edu.au

Department of English

Macquarie University NSW 2109 Australia

courses.mq.edu.au

CRICOS Provider 00002J



MACQUARIE
University