

# 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.

## 2021 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 : Narrative Fundamentals (10 cp)
- Writing Creative Non-Fiction: an introduction (10 cp)
- Short Form Writing: short story, novella, poetry cycle (10 cp)
- Professional Context Project (10 cp)

ELECTIVE SET 40 credit points, from

- Word Essentials: Prose and Poetry(10 cp)
- Writing the Past (10 cp)
- Manuscript Project (Half Year, Part A)
- Digital Creative Writing: Interactive Prose and Poetry (10 cp)
- Manuscript Project B (10 cp)
- Special Study Unit 1 :Research Preparation(10 cp)

### 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 Your creative portfolio need not be published work, though if you have published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.

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

AQF level 8 bachelor honours or graduate diploma qualification in a related field or recognised equivalent, or

Meet two of the following three criteria:

AQF level 7 bachelor's qualification in a related field or recognised equivalent

Approved work experience, professional certification or other recognised prior learning

AQF level 7 bachelor's qualification or recognised equivalent with a WAM of 65

## GRADUATE PROFILES

Peta Jinnath Abdul

Master of Creative Writing graduate

Macquarie is an incredibly helpful and supportive environment. I was nervous returning to study after a long break and coming into a different field. In the time I've spent here, I've grown into a woman who is unafraid to explore, ask, and engage. That is a direct result of supportive, knowledgeable staff who have guided my reading and challenged my thinking while still giving me room to explore. I've been encouraged, guided, and reminded of what I can do.

I used to think I needed to know everything. Today, I know that if I enter a story thinking I know everything, then I'm not creating, not learning, not discovering. I'm rehashing. And that's not enough for me now. Macquarie has taught me to want more, to be more. That writing is blood on the page, sweat in the eyes, and sleepless nights. It's taking risks and telling truth.

### PUBLISHED GRADUATES

- Liane Moriarty
- Mary-Ellen Mullane
- Judith Mendoza-White
- Elizabeth Claire Alberts
- Jeni Mawter
- Tara Crowl
- Irimi 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:

- Poet and Program Director, Marcelle Freiman (*White Lines (Vertical)*, *Monkey's Wedding*)
- Non-fiction essayist, Dr Rebecca Giggs (*Granta*, *Griffith Review*, *Best Australian Essays*)
- Non-fiction essayist, Michelle Hamadache (*editor of Southerly Journal*)
- Novelist and historian Hsu-Ming Teo (*Behind the Moon*, *Love and Vertigo*).

### 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](http://thequarryjournal.com)

From the **Lighthouse** podcasts

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

Twitter @MQEnglish

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#### FIND OUT MORE

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