



Creative Writing

Crafting compelling narratives.

At Ringling College, we believe that well-told stories speak truths and communicate ideas. That's why we developed our Creative Writing program—to support, empower, and honor young storytellers, no matter what medium students choose to reach audiences.

Becoming a Creative Writing major means joining a group of writers passionate about developing and sharing compelling narratives. Students benefit from craft instruction from practicing writers/teachers and close interactions with visiting authors, scholars, and publishing professionals. Most important, Ringling College students learn by doing. And opportunities to try out a wide range of writing are here from day one.

Graduates of this 120-credit Creative Writing BFA have the technical competence and rhetorical fluency to succeed within all the narrative possibilities that print, film, games, digital media, and new technologies offer. Our graduates are ready to compete in a job market where finely chosen words, engaging stories, and professional conduct will always be in demand.

Visiting Writers and Publishing Professionals

Our industry guests not only headline at the Visiting Writers Forum, but they also present in classes. Here's a sampling from our guestbook:

Kwame Alexander
Writer, *The Crossover*

Robert Olen Butler
Writer, *A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain*

Delliah Dawson
Writer, *Star Wars: Phasma*

Lucienne Diver
Literary Agent, The Knight Agency

Ken Hite
Writer, *The Dracula Dossier*, *Vampire: The Masquerade*

Cheryl Klein
Editorial Director, Lee & Low Books

Jonathan Maberry
Writer, *V-Wars*, *Rot & Ruin*

Sandra Markle
Writer, *What If You Had Animal Ears!?*

Aimee Nezhukumatathil
Writer, *World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks, and Other Astonishments*

Alex Rubens
Writer, *Community*, *The Twilight Zone*

Rob Sanders
Writer, *Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag*, *Peaceful Fights for Equal Rights*

Ann VanderMeer
Writer, *The Big Book of Science Fiction*

Will Wight
Writer, *the Cradle series*

Jane Yolen
Writer, *Owl Moon*, *The Devil's Arithmetic*

Career Planning and Preparation

We have a year-by-year set of benchmarks that keep our students on track for success. By year four, for example, we help our seniors to achieve

- a clear, actionable Writing Career Plan
- feedback on their work from a literary agent, editor, producer, or publisher
- two publication credits

Mentoring and Networking

All new Creative Writing majors have a junior or senior mentor to ensure they maximize every opportunity and have a strong support system. Our students also have the opportunity to connect with Ringling College alumni mentors to get extra real-world advice and guidance.



Creative Writing Mission Statement

To educate, empower, and inspire future generations of creative communicators.

Coursework You Choose

Our students design their own paths by choosing from 32 course offerings that include

Audio Storytelling & Podcasting

The Profession of Creative Writing

Screenwriting

Writing Adaptations

Writing Comics & Graphic Narratives

Writing Fantasy

Writing Horror

Writing Picture Books

Writing Science Fiction

Writing for AI

Writing for Shared Worlds

Writing for Tabletop Games

Writing for Video Games

Writing for Young Adults

Creative Writing Concentrations

Creative Writing majors have the option to choose a concentration to focus on and further develop their writing pursuits. Students who take three or more classes in one of the following areas and then complete their year-long Senior Capstone project in the same area will have the concentration noted on their transcript.

• **Scriptwriting**

• **Game Writing**

• **Word & Image**

Shift: A Journal of Literary Oddities

Our students get hands-on experience in editing, designing, and producing *Shift*, a print and digital literary arts magazine that invites submissions from writers and artists throughout the world. ringlingshiftjournal.com

Faculty

Our faculty is composed of award-winning and experienced authors, editors, and industry professionals with the shared goal of empowering young writers.

Learn more about our faculty: www.ringling.edu/faculty

Visiting Writers Forum

Our students learn about the world of writing and publishing directly from novelists, comic book writers, video game writers, screenwriters, editors, literary agents, and other writing professionals through our monthly on-campus events.

www.visitingwritersforum.com

Career Options for Creative Writers

Biographer	Narrative Designer
Columnist	Nonfiction Writer
Comic Book Writer	Novelist
Communications Director	Playwright
Copyeditor	Producer
Copywriter	Public Relations Executive
Critic	Publisher
Editor	Reporter
Freelance Writer	Researcher
Ghostwriter	Screenwriter
Grant Writer	Speechwriter
Graphic Novelist	Tabletop Game Developer
Greeting Card Writer	Teacher
Journalist	Technical Writer
Literary Agent	Travel Writer
Lyricist	Video Game Writer
Marketing Associate	Writing Coach
Medical Writer	

Writing Internship

Creative Writing students have the opportunity to undertake internships anytime after their first year. We believe in the value of real-world, job-related writing so strongly that all creative writing majors must complete one internship for credit or pass CRWR 310 Magazine and Feature Writing.

