



# 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*

**Delilah 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.visitingwritersforum.com)

## Career Options for Creative Writers

Biographer

Columnist

Comic Book Writer

Communications  
Director

Copyeditor

Copywriter

Critic

Editor

Freelance Writer

Ghostwriter

Grant Writer

Graphic Novelist

Greeting Card Writer

Journalist

Literary Agent

Lyricist

Marketing Associate

Medical Writer

Narrative Designer

Nonfiction Writer

Novelist

Playwright

Producer

Public Relations  
Executive

Publisher

Reporter

Researcher

Screenwriter

Speechwriter

Tabletop Game  
Developer

Teacher

Technical Writer

Travel Writer

Video Game Writer

Writing Coach

## 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.



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