

Programme Specification for Postgraduate Programme Leading to:

MA Creative Writing

MA Creative Writing: The Novel

MA Creative Writing: Poetry

MA Creative Writing: Publishing

MA Creative Writing: Screenwriting

Applicable for all postgraduate students starting in 2019/20

<u>Version No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Notes – QA USE ONLY</u>	<u>QA</u>
0.1	March 2019	Modified programme for 2019/20 – introduction of pathways. Design review	BJR

Masters programme	
1. Awarding institution	Brunel University London
2. Teaching institution(s)	Brunel University London
3. Home college/department/division	College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences/Dept. of Arts and Humanities/Division of English & Creative Writing
4. Contributing college/department/division/associated institution	N/A
5. Programme accredited by	N/A
6. Final award(s) and FHEQ Level of Award	MA Creative Writing FHEQ Level 7
7. Programme title	MA Creative Writing
8. N/A	N/A
9. Normal length of programme (in months) for each mode of study	1 year/ 12 months (FT) 2 years/24 months (PT)
10. Maximum period of registration for each mode of study	2 years/24 months (FT) 4 years/48 months (PT)
11. Variation(s) to September start	N/A

12. Modes of study	(FT)/(PT)
13. Modes of delivery	Standard
14. Intermediate awards and titles and FHEQ Level of Award	<p>PGDip in Creative Writing FHEQ Level 7</p> <p>PGDip in Creative Writing (The Novel) FHEQ Level 7</p> <p>PGDip in Creative Writing (Poetry) FHEQ Level 7</p> <p>PGDip in Creative Writing (Publishing) FHEQ Level 7</p> <p>PGDip in Creative Writing (Screenwriting) FHEQ Level 7</p> <p>PGCert in Creative Writing FHEQ Level 7</p>
15. N/A	N/A
16. JACS Code	W800
17. Route Code	W890PCREAWRI
18. Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external and internal reference points used to inform programme design	<p>QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education which includes the English Framework for Higher Education Qualifications within Part A on Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards.</p> <p>Most Recent QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: there are currently no relevant subject benchmark statements.</p> <p>NAWE Creative Writing Research Benchmark 1.1 - 6.4</p> <p>Brunel 2030</p> <p>Brunel Placement Learning Policy, as published under the 'Placements' section of the 'Managing Higher Education Provision with Others' page.</p>
19. Admission Requirements	<p>Details of entry requirements are provided on the University's and College website.</p> <p>Levels of English for non-native speakers are outlined on Brunel International's language requirements pages.</p>
20. Other relevant information (e.g. study abroad, additional information on placements)	N/A
21. Programme regulations not specified in Senate Regulation 3. Any departure from regulations specified in Senate Regulation 3 must be stated here and approved by Senate.	N/A

22. Further information about the programme is available from the College website.	http://www.brunel.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/creative-writing-ma
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23. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The MA: Creative Writing is designed for students who wish to gain academic accreditation for their creative work, and skills and knowledge in creative writing practice, publishing and pedagogy. It aims to prepare students for:

1. Advancement in creative writing skills across a number of disciplines.
2. Progression to doctorate-level creative writing study.
3. Employment in a wide range of contexts in which writing skills are a central requirement or as a professional working with creative writers.

To this end, the programme is designed to:

1. Provide a framework that demonstrates a broad range of advanced writing techniques and practices.
2. Provide a supportive and constructive environment for students' work.
3. Foster a range of creative and critical skills, including the ability to work independently on a research project.

24. PROGRAMME AND INTERMEDIATE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding (K) cognitive (thinking) skills (C) and other skills and attributes (S) in the following areas:

Level	Category (K = knowledge and understanding, C = cognitive (thinking) skills, S = other skills and attributes)	Learning Outcome	Masters Award Only	Associated Assessment Blocks Code(s)	Associated Study Blocks Code(s)	Associated Modular Blocks Code(s)
5						
All pathways						
	K	Understand the latest insights into contemporary writing across all media.				All modules
	K	Expand insight into the strategies involved in written, visual and oral communication.				All modules

	K	Develop detailed knowledge of relevant film and literature, and awareness of genre.				All modules
	K	Understand how to produce a substantial and original piece of extended writing, presented in the relevant form	X			CW5XXO
	K and C	Apply knowledge of a variety of theoretical principles and methodologies relating to creativity.				All modules
	C and S	Demonstrate a range of advanced skills in written and oral communication.				All modules (except CW5XXO: dissertation)
	C	Demonstrate a high level of creativity and independence as part of an ongoing self-reflective practice.				All modules
	C and S	Construct a sophisticated critique of extended compositional practices, analysing influences on the production of the piece, its evolution and final form	X			CW5XXO
	C	Comprehend the processes by which written works are disseminated in contemporary culture.				All modules
	S	Develop and deliver an advanced level of creative and critical practice.				All modules
	S	Make informed and incisive assessments in a workshop environment.				All modules (except CW5XXO: dissertation)
	S	Make use of appropriate information technology.				All modules

Pathway-specific Learning Outcomes

Creative Writing (general)

	K	Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of current theory and practice of writing in the community or creative writing teaching or the creative industries.				CW5XXG
	K	Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of the role of the writer in arts initiatives or the teacher in creative writing courses or the worker in the creative industries.				CW5XXG
	C and S	Devise appropriate plans for creative writing teaching at				CW5XXG

		various educational levels or for community projects.				
Creative Writing: The Novel						
	K	Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of the structure of a novel.				CW5XXH
	K and C	Critically and insightfully evaluate the intentions and outcomes of a variety of novel forms and genres.				CW5XXH
	C	Compose a detailed novel outline and demonstrate an awareness of professional industry expectations.				CW5XXH
Creative Writing: Screenwriting						
	K	Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of the production and reception of different genres of screenwriting, and the ability to apply such understanding self-critically to the practice of composition for the screen.				CW5XXD
	K	Evaluate the intentions and outcomes of a variety of writing exercises with critical insight.				CW5XXD
	K	Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of the relationship between conceptualising ideas and using screenwriting formats to realise them.				CW5XXK
Creative Writing: Poetry						
	S	Employ language innovatively to create new poetry				CW5XXB CW5XXI
	S	Create a sustained body of work that employs a range of technical approaches				CW5XXB CW5XXI
	K and S	Demonstrate advanced knowledge of how poetry collections work and the different possibilities in terms of formal/generic/aesthetic choices				CW5XXI
Creative Writing: Publishing						

	K	Demonstrate knowledge of the publishing industry, its history and processes				CW5XXC
	K	Understand the relationship between author, agent, editor and the key roles at a publishing house.				CW5XXC
	K and S	Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of specialist, trade and self-publishing across all media				CW5XXJ
	S and C	Conceive and plan a new publishing venture to address a gap in the market				CW5XXJ

Learning/teaching strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be achieved, including formative assessments

Learning/teaching methods and strategies:

Core knowledge and understanding are acquired by means of lectures and other tutor-led activities (including workshops and seminars), together with guided independent learning. Expert visiting speakers supplement teaching by school staff. Regular one-to-one tutorials are timetabled throughout the year, including during the project period (during term-time).

Cognitive skills are generally developed concurrently with knowledge and understanding, through the medium of the teaching and learning programme outlined above and expanded on below. As a taught postgraduate programme, particular stress is placed on the development of independent thinking, and on the self-reflective assessment of such thinking. Workshops and regular one-to-one tutorials are designed specifically to foster such development.

Skills are developed through the range of teaching and learning methods deployed on the programme. Individual module sessions make use of at least two teaching methods (lectures and small-group work), with the ongoing programme of workshops and tutorials serving to foster the targeted skills.

Formative assessment is a central feature of the Creative Writing programme through the weekly writing assignments undertaken in all taught modules. The emphasis on providing clear and constructive feedback to students enables them to identify strengths, weaknesses and gaps in their writing, and their theoretical knowledge or understanding. Feedback is provided in a number of ways including through the tutor during classes or one-to-one tutorials, and most notably through self and peer critique opportunities in the writing workshops themselves. These workshops form the bedrock of the programme. The regular writing assignments that feed into these workshops often form the starting points of the texts that will be developed into assessed coursework; and the on-going development of individual pieces of work also contribute to the shared knowledge of the programme's student body.

Summative assessment strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be demonstrated.

Knowledge and understanding are tested by means of a range of assessment tasks, including written coursework (often presented in portfolio-form); written project; journal; oral presentation; self-and peer-evaluation of written work; workshop contributions. The wide range of assessment methods is aimed at the full coverage of cognitive skills, both written assessment and oral. Written assignments and oral presentations, the rolling programme of workshops, independent learning, monitored throughout the period via regular tutorials, and advice on the level of IT ability appropriate at Master's level foster the required skills and attributes.

25. Programme Structure, progression and award requirements

Programme structures and features: levels, assessment blocks, credit and progression and award requirements.

- **Compulsory block:** one which all students registered for the award are required to take as part of their programme of study. These will be listed in the left hand column;
- **Optional block:** one which students choose from an 'option range'. These will be listed in the right hand column;
- A **core assessment** is an assessment identified within an assessment block or modular block (either compulsory or optional) which must be passed (at grade C- or better) in order to be eligible to progress and to be eligible for the final award. All core assessments must be specified on the programme specification next to the appropriate assessment or modular block:

Where students are expected to pass the block at C- or better, but not necessarily all elements, then the block itself is core.

e.g. AB5500 Project (40)

Core: Block

Where only some elements of assessments are required to be passed at C- or better, these will be identified by listing each element that is core

e.g. ABXXX1 Title (XX credits)

Core: 1 & 4

Where students are expected to pass all assessments in a block then this will be identified. By setting the assessment this way, students are also required to pass the block by default. This will be identified thus:

e.g. ABXXXX Title (XX credits)

Core: All, Block

- A **non-core assessment** does not have to be passed at grade C- or better, but must D- or better in order to be eligible for the final award.

Level 5	
Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credit N/A	Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits N/A
Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume N/A	Optional Study block codes, titles and credit volume N/A

Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits

CW5XXA Elements of Fiction (30 credits)

(Pathways: General MA; The Novel)

(part-time students – year 1)

CW5XXB Elements of Poetry (30 credits)

(Pathway: Poetry)

(part-time students – year 1)

CW5XXC Elements of Publishing (30 credits)

(Pathway: Publishing)

(part-time students – year 1)

CW5XXD Elements of Screenwriting (30 credits)

(Pathway: Screenwriting)

(part-time students – year 1)

CW5XXG Writers at Work (30 credits)

(Pathway: General MA)

(part-time students – year 1)

CW5XXH Planning a Novel (30 credits)

(Pathway: The Novel)

(part-time students – year 1)

CW 5XXI Towards a Poetry Collection (30 credits)

(Pathway: Poetry)

(part-time students – year 1)

CW5XXJ Becoming a Publisher (30 credits)

(Pathway: Publishing)

(part-time students – year 1)

CW5XXK Developing a Screenplay (30 credits)

(Pathway: Screenwriting)

(part-time students – year 1)

Optional modular block codes, titles and credits

CW5XXE Creativity (30 credits)

(part-time students – year 2)

CW5XXF Reviewing & Criticism (30 credits)

(part-time students – year 2)

CW5XXL Creative Careers (30 credits)

(part-time students – year 2)

CW5XXM Feature Journalism (30 credits)

(part-time students – year 2)

CW5XXN Exploring Human Development (30 credits)

(part-time students – year 2)

CW5XXO Creative Writing Dissertation (60 credits)

Core: Block

(part-time students – year 2)

Level 5 Progression and Award Requirements

As per [Senate Regulation 3](#)

PGDip may not be awarded by substitution of the dissertation (CW5XXO) for modular blocks in the taught part of the programme.

Please note: this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods can be found in the module outlines and other programme and module information. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University from time to time and whenever a major modification occurs, and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.