

WRITING POETRY 436.01 Short Forms

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Permission to enroll in any Creative Writing course, except the Introductory Creative Writing half course, requires students to submit a writing portfolio. Because of high demand for most of these courses (60 and 100 applications for 20 places), we require a portfolio from students, **10-15 pages of writing for poetry**, on the basis of which the Department determines admission.

The material you submit in your portfolio should match the genre of the course you are applying to. Note: the highly competitive nature of admission to Creative Writing courses means that NOT ALL STUDENTS GET IN. If you are not accepted when you first apply, we encourage you to try again another year, and to make an appointment with the Canadian-Writer-in-Residence/Calgary Distinguished Writers' Program, who is available to provide feedback on students' work.

Because you cannot register in portfolio admission courses until you receive permission from the Department, undergraduates should register in a second-choice course.

In addition to reading carefully the specific details concerning portfolio submissions for individual courses, you should keep in mind the following general advice:

- Your acceptance into the class (or not) is not an absolute judgment of your writing ability at this point. We receive many more portfolios than there are places in Creative Writing classes, and if you do not get into one class, you may get into another in another year, or you may gain admission to a class in another genre. If you are not accepted, please don't be discouraged. Just keep writing and try again.

- The questions asked on portfolio submission forms regarding your background (previous writing courses taken, which recent literary titles you have read, etc.) have no right or wrong answers. They are intended to give the instructor a sense of what level of previous writing or reading experience the members of the class--when chosen--possess. This is useful information for the instructor in fine-tuning his or her curriculum for the course.

While our Creative Writing courses encourage diverse approaches to writing, these courses are instruction in literary writing. They are not courses in how to get published. They are courses about how to become a better writer, with respect to language, image, structure, form and all the other elements of poetry and fiction. These courses focus entirely on the craft of writing well within a literary context.

- Fill out the form that the applicable course requires, available either online (<http://english.ucalgary.ca/cwundergrad>), or from the Department office on the 11th floor of Social Sciences (SS 1152), and hand in your portfolio by the date specified on the form. You can contact the Department office to learn whether you have been given permission to register. Bring the portfolio, or mail it to:

- - **Department of English**
11th floor, Social Sciences Building
University of Calgary
Calgary, AB T2N 1N4

- The forms ask for your name, student ID number, e-mail address, previous English courses and grades, previous creative workshops (where, with whom, and your grade) and other required information (see page 2)

APPLICATION AND PORTFOLIO
DUE: Dec. 1, 2018

Name: _____

Phone: _____ . Student ID#: _____

e-mail: _____

1. List previous English courses that may relate, and Course instructor:

2. List all previous Creative Writing courses (including non-credit), grade received, and instructor:

3. Your reasons for wishing to enroll in this course:

4. Attach 10-15 pages of your best writing.

You will be notified of whether or not you gain admission by mid December 2018.

Please forward any questions regarding your application to:

micheline.maylor@ucalgary.ca

If you are applying as an Open Studies student please be aware of the application process and deadlines.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/future-students/open-studies>