

REGULATIONS FOR THE POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING IN ENGLISH (PDipCWEng)

(See also General Regulations)

PDipCWEng 1 Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission to studies leading to the Postgraduate Diploma in Creative Writing in English, a candidate shall:

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;¹
 - (b) hold
 - (i) a good first Bachelor's degree (i.e. Second Class Honours First Division) of this University; or
 - (ii) another qualification of equivalent standard from this University or from another University or comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
 - (c) possess prior experience of creative writing in English;
 - (d) satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination, if required.
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PDipCWEng 2 Qualifying examination

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidate's formal academic ability or his/her ability to follow the courses of study prescribed. It shall consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent;
 - (b) A candidate who is required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until he/she has satisfied the examiners in the examination.
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PDipCWEng 3 Award of postgraduate diploma

To be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Creative Writing in English, a candidate shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations; and
 - (b) complete the curriculum and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.
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PDipCWEng 4 Length of curriculum

The curriculum shall normally be completed within two academic years of part-time study.

¹ In addition to the TOEFL requirement specified in General Regulation G 2, the Faculty also requires either a Test of Written English (TWE) score of 4 or above or an Essay Rating score of 4.0 or above in the computer-based TOEFL.

PDipCWEng 5 Completion of curriculum

To complete the curriculum, a candidate shall:

- (a) follow courses of instruction and complete satisfactorily all prescribed work; and
 - (b) satisfy the examiners in all prescribed courses and in any prescribed form of examination.
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PDipCWEng 6 Assessment

- (a) A candidate's performance during the study may be assessed through written assignments as prescribed by the courses.
 - (b) A candidate must pass two compulsory modules in 'Creative Writing' before he/she is allowed to proceed to the second year of the Postgraduate Diploma in Creative Writing in English programme. A candidate who fails the compulsory 'Creative Writing' modules but passes in other elective modules may be considered by the Faculty for transfer to the two-year part-time programme of Master of Arts in English Studies.
 - (c) A candidate who passes the compulsory 'Creative Writing I' module but fails in one 3-credit elective module in the first semester will be allowed to select another 3-credit elective module offered in the second semester.
 - (d) A candidate who fails one 3-credit elective module in the second semester may be required to repeat one semester of study in the Postgraduate Diploma programme or the part-time programme of Master of Arts in English Studies in the following year.
 - (e) A candidate who fails the 12 credits workshop and portfolio in the second semester would be deemed to have failed the entire Postgraduate Diploma programme.
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PDipCWEng 7 Discontinuation

- (a) A candidate who passes the compulsory 'Creative Writing' modules but fails two 3-credit elective modules in the first year will be required to discontinue his/her studies.
 - (b) A candidate who fails the 12 credits workshop and portfolio and up to one 3-credit module in the second semester will be required to discontinue his/her studies.
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PDipCWEng 8 Assessment

A pass list shall be published in alphabetical order after completion of the programme requirements. A candidate who has shown exceptional merit in the four modules and the portfolio may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidate's diploma.

SYLLABUS FOR THE POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING IN ENGLISH

The Postgraduate Diploma in Creative Writing in English is offered part-time over two years. The programme is articulated with the Master of Arts in English Studies. Students are required to complete a total of 24 credits, consisting of 12 credits of coursework plus 12 credits in the form of workshops and portfolio.

The coursework consists of Creative Writing I (3 credits), Creative Writing II (3 credits), and two MA courses (3 credits each) chosen from the list below. The MA module Teaching Creativity is NOT offered to Diploma students.

Students are required to participate in workshops and must present a portfolio of original creative writing in one genre or mixed genre (12 credits).

In their first year, students must complete a minimum of 9 credits and a maximum of 12, including the compulsory modules Creative Writing I and Creative Writing II. In their second year, students must if necessary complete their coursework requirement, and gain a further 12 credits through participation in workshops and production of the portfolio. Attendance is compulsory.

(I) COURSEWORK: 12 CREDITS

Each course is six weeks in length and meets once a week for a three hours session.

ENGL7009. Creative Writing I (3 credits)

Introduction at the graduate level to sustained work in a genre, including development of formal practices, editing exercises, and modeling. At the end of this course, students will select preferences for further practice and offer a presentation on a chosen specialization.

Assessment: 100% coursework. This module is assessed pass/fail.

ENGL7010. Creative Writing II (3 credits)

Students will develop techniques of a chosen genre and experiment with cross-genre possibilities. Topics include: dialogue and description, point of view and prosody. At the end of this course, students produce a short portfolio.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Elective Modules

Students take **either** two 3-credit modules from the following list of MA courses **or** one 3-credit module from the following list plus one 3-credit prescribed reading module designed in consultation with the tutor.

ENGL6054. Modern Literature and the City (3 credits)

This module examines the impact and theme of the metropolis in modern writing. Urban experience is central to modernity, and this module explores the city as early twentieth century writers imagined and defined it.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL6055. Modernism and its Others (3 credits)

An important aspect of modernism and modern literature is its contact with other peoples and cultures, through imperialism, travel and scholarship. This module looks at specific cases of such interaction, with a concentration on writing marked by transactions between the West and the Orient.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL6056. Cultural Semiotics (3 credits)

Cultural semiotics is, as Roland Barthes has said, the study of 'images, gestures, musical sounds, objects, and the complex associations of all of these, which form the content of ritual, convention or public entertainment.' Semiotics has a special relevance for the study of modern mass culture, and the analysis of such popular cultural forms as advertising, journalism, and film.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL6057. Sociolinguistic Theory and Research (3 credits)

This module sets out to survey current theories in the study of language and society within the developing field of sociolinguistics. Such theoretical approaches will be critically discussed with reference to a number of key research methodologies used within the field, as well as the study of English in Asia and Hong Kong.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL6058. Feminism and Modernism (3 credits)

This module re-assesses modernism from the angle of feminism and gender. The module attempts to assess the role of women in modernism and explores the gendering of this literary movement. Students study both modernist and non-modernist texts by women writers.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL6059. Postmodernism: Theoretical Paradigms (3 credits)

Postmodernism rejects the enlightenment project of the quest for scientific, certain knowledge through experience, logic, classification, and rationality. In this module we will explore theoretical paradigms of postmodernism through a selection of readings by theorists and critics who deal with issues such as capitalism, art, identity, language, the West, and history.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL6060. English Discourse (3 credits)

This module introduces students to the study of English discourse from a linguistic perspective by examining different notions of text, including spoken and written English discourse, narrative structure, conversation, and grammar and discourse. Central issues include the organization of different kinds of texts, the interaction of discourse and grammar, and how discourse shapes our social lives.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL6061. Language and the Law (3 credits)

This module introduces law as a domain in which a variety of important linguistic issues can be addressed, including language planning and language policy, discourse analysis and critical linguistics, as well as questions of linguistic semantics and pragmatics. Legal language has also been discussed in the context of literary theory and contemporary debates about postmodernism, rationality, and power.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL6062. Postmodernist Literature (3 credits)

Postmodernist fiction extends modernist uncertainty, often by assuming that reality, if it exists at all, is unknowable or inaccessible through a language grown detached from it. Such fictions (sometimes called metafiction) investigate instead what worlds can be projected or constructed by texts and language.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL6063. Postcolonial English (3 credits)

In recent studies of colonial discourse, the spread of the imperial language to the colonies has been seen as central to colonial rule. As a site of cultural contest, it is also through language that postcolonial studies of resistance have often been focused. Related to this are questions about how the uses of English frame and mediate subject and nation formations, strategies of literary narrative and representation, cultural translation, and knowledge dissemination. Students will read a selection of texts - imaginative literature, essays, theory - which articulate the voices of postcolonial discourse on the cultural significations of English.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL6064. Language and Media (3 credits)

This module focuses on those characteristics of language in the media that mark it out from language used in other contexts. It looks at the practical and communicational reasons behind some kinds of media language practices, and explores the ways in which language is shaped and manipulated within the media in order to achieve certain kinds of authority and persuasive power.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

(II) WORKSHOPS AND PORTFOLIO: 12 CREDITS

Students will attend 4-6 group workshops. These workshops will discuss advanced issues of genre - poetry and prose - and conduct peer review of creative work. Attendance at group workshops is compulsory. A 3-hour workshop will be held each week for four to six weeks.

Students are required to write, revise, edit, and present for assessment a substantial **portfolio** (30-50 pages) of original creative writing in one genre or mixed genres. At least 4 individual meetings with the tutor for portfolio supervision will be flexibly scheduled within one semester (12 weeks). Continuous assessment: 40%. Final portfolio: 60%.