

Overview of the PhD in Creative Writing and Literature

	Fall	Spring
Year One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take two 3-hour courses, plus Practicum (2 hours) and the Professionalization Seminar (1 hour) • Teach one composition course • You're guaranteed one creative writing course next year; by December 1, turn in an application for any additional CW or literature courses you'd like to teach to the Department Head 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take three 3-hour courses • Teach one composition course • Secure a teaching mentor for your guaranteed CW course next year; observe that person's class at least once • By March 15, turn in the syllabus for your CW course to the Department Head
Year Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take three 3-hour courses • Teach one creative writing course* • Ask your teaching mentor to observe your class • Begin planning exam areas and finding examiners • By December 1, turn in an application for any CW or literature courses you'd like to teach next year to the Department Head 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take three 3-hour courses • Teach one composition, creative writing, or literature course • By January 15, turn in the Exam Areas and Committee form to the Director of Graduate Studies • By the end of the semester, turn in the Exam List form to the DGS
Year Three	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read for exams • Teach one composition, creative writing, or literature course • By December 1, turn in an application for any CW or literature courses you'd like to teach next year to the Department Head 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach one composition, creative writing, or literature course • By the deadline in January, apply for the Taft Dissertation Fellowship • Assemble your dissertation committee • By February 15, complete your exams; then turn in the Doctoral Candidacy form—with dissertation committee names—to the DGS

Year Four	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write • Teach one composition, creative writing, or literature course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write • Teach one composition, creative writing, or literature course • By the Graduate School deadline in January, apply for graduation • By March 15, apply (if necessary) for fifth-year funding to the DGS • By the Graduate School deadline in early April, defend and submit your dissertation**
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* Please note that second years are assigned CW courses in fall whenever possible; on occasion some second years will teach their guaranteed CW course in spring.

** Please note that all defenses and exams must take place during the school year.