Interact one-on-one with published writers in our intimate class setting

Refine your talent in a program that balances creativity and analysis

Showcase your work in University publications, local events, and contests

Graduate with a BFA in four years or a BFA/MFA or BFA/MAT in five years

**why you belong here**

Do you have a natural ability or affinity for expressing yourself creatively? Have you always been a voracious reader or a prolific writer? Did you graduate from a high school for the creative or performing arts? If so, then you belong in this program.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing (BFA) program at Chatham University provides a rigorous, thoughtful, and engaging program in which to explore, hone, and showcase your innate talents.

Our dedicated and supportive faculty is comprised of publishing writers who serve as mentors, instructors, collaborators, and peers. Chatham University provides a unique atmosphere in which you can feel free to experiment with medium and expression while gaining valuable knowledge and skills in the art of writing.

**what you can expect**

As a student of Chatham University’s BFA program, you will receive individualized instruction, attention, and feedback from your professors, as well as mentoring from students of our Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Creative Writing program. Your talents will flourish as you immerse yourself in our community of writers and seize the many opportunities to read and showcase your work at Pittsburgh-area and local literary events.

During your senior year, you will have the opportunity to strengthen both your creative and analytical abilities during a capstone seminar. This seminar does two things: It integrates the knowledge that you’ve accumulated, and it allows you to channel that knowledge into a discipline-specific project under close faculty guidance.
**what you will learn**

At Chatham University, you will follow a rigorous program of study in the English Department en route to your Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing degree. A firm grounding in literary forms and history, along with genre theory, literary theory, and upper-level literature study combine to enhance your development as a writer. Our BFA curriculum is designed to develop and hone your creative writing skills through a focused sequence of creative writing courses, culminating in your capstone seminar.

**where it will take you**

Write the next chapters of your life as you pursue a career in editing, copywriting, advertising, teaching, or nonprofit and grant writing. Many of our students use their time at Chatham to become published and award-winning writers, through extracurricular involvement or official internships with one the many journals and publications based at the University or in the Pittsburgh area.

If you are highly qualified and seriously interested in pursuing an advanced degree, you may apply for admission to our 5-year BFA/MFA in Creative Writing or our BFA/MA in Teaching program. Both of these programs give you the immersive undergraduate creative writing experience, while enabling you to further your education and start your career even faster.

**learn more**

Read faculty bios, browse course descriptions, and view the requirements for related majors, minors, and accelerated programs at chatham.edu/creativewriting.

‘The Chatham BFA in Creative Writing is uniquely rigorous, founded as it is on a historically outstanding English Department. Our literature and creative writing professors publish prodigiously and work tirelessly to help students be better writers, citizens, and readers of their world.’

—William Lenz Ph.D., Pontious Professor of English

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**trending now**

- Students of the Creative Writing program are encouraged to join the [Chatham University Creative Writing Club](#), which offers support and advice to aspiring writers and keeps you connected to upcoming literary events, readings, and contests.

- Read selected student pieces showcased in *The Minor Bird*, Chatham University’s undergraduate literary journal. Check out [The Minor Bird blog](#) for inspiration and relief from writer’s block with new prompts added each Friday.