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The BFA major offers a highly motivated cohort of creative writing students the opportunity for enriched and focused study. Its curriculum includes introductory work across all genres (fiction, nonfiction, and poetry); intermediate and advanced workshops in the student's chosen genre; a foundation in literary history; exploration across artistic forms in Fine Arts courses; and a final portfolio.

The BFA prepares students for graduate study and careers in writing, teaching, and publishing, as well as for a range of professions that demand imagination, critical thinking, and advanced writing and editing skills.

Demonstrate knowledge of literary craft terms, techniques, forms, and genre-specific conventions in one's chosen strand (fiction, poetry, or nonfiction). Students acquire and apply this knowledge in 200-, 300-, and 400-level writing workshops and WR 407 seminars.

Demonstrate familiarity with literary forms and genres outside one's chosen strand. Students gain this familiarity in introductory (200-level) writing workshops and cross-strand seminars (WR 407).

Analyze published texts with attention to form, structure, voice, language, and audience. Students build analytical skills in writing workshops, seminars, and literature courses.

Produce cogent written and oral critiques of peers' work in progress, using detailed textual evidence. Students hone critical and expressive skills in writing workshops and seminars.

Demonstrate the ability to revise texts in response to feedback from peers and instructors. Students practice revision techniques and strategies in writing workshops at all levels.

Demonstrate the ability to write a library research paper. BFA majors without prior training in research papers are encouraged to take WR 222.

Produce a final portfolio containing a critical essay that reflects on artistic intent, development, and revision of the creative work; and 20-30 pages of poetry or 30-50 pages of fiction or