

Creative Writing

MFA



ALASKA
PACIFIC
UNIVERSITY

The MFA program provides an engaging, rigorous, and culturally responsive learning environment for emerging writers from all backgrounds, while showcasing and supporting the work of Alaskan, Indigenous, and Northern writers.



Earn your MFA in **Creative Writing.**

The Master of Fine Arts is a 36-credit program of individualized, mentor-directed studies with three summer terms, each inclusive of a low-residency requirement. The program includes three areas of study: Fiction, Literary Nonfiction, and Poetry.

Over the course of two years and three summers, students gain a comprehensive understanding of their chosen genre (fiction, literary nonfiction, poetry) along with their place among the notable writers who have gone before them. Fall and Spring semesters in the program involve one-on-one, mentor-directed study plans, advancing individual writing goals. As they work through individualized study plans, students hone their craft with the goal of producing publishable works.

Summer residencies—approximately 2 weeks in length, and introduced by online learning sessions—are comprised of workshops, seminars, lectures, panels, and readings. Through residencies on APU's campus, the program strives to honor the Dena'ina people and their traditional lands upon which APU sits, as well as Alaska Native storytelling traditions that have thrived and continue to inspire.

Advancing your career and your community.



**Our Vision:
Honoring Alaska's
Indigenous
heritage,
exemplifying
excellence, and
preparing paths.**

Master of Fine Arts Creative Writing

Designed for aspiring authors, the Master of Fine Arts program provides one-on-one mentorship and guidance, as enrolled students dive into the works of Northern writers and hone their own poetry, fiction, or literary nonfiction. Likewise, the degree program provides an avenue to meet and study Alaska authors; summer residencies include nightly readings in the Earl R. Brown Auditorium in Grant Hall that are open to the public.



Master of Fine Arts Creative Writing

Required Courses

- Form & Theory (15)
- Writer's Workshop (10)
- Thesis (8)
- Thesis Writer's Workshop (3)

Academic Study Plan & Self-Designed Courses

For every semester of Form & Theory the study plan will include:

- 60-80 pages of prose or 20-30 pages of poetry
- 20-30 pages of critical analysis
- Reading 10-12 books or manuscripts

Program Outcomes

- Produced a polished book-length manuscript of creative work in their chosen genre of study (fiction, literary nonfiction, poetry).
- Demonstrated disciplinary understanding of the elements of craft that distinguish their genre.
- Developed appreciation for Alaska Native traditions of storytelling and other Alaska-based narrative traditions
- Expressed the distinctive qualities of their own style and voice.
- Identified productive research and methods to gather and present information ethically and accurately.
- Synthesized information, applying it in a real-world setting, and assessing results to refine the thesis.
- Used effective oral and written communication to present an overview of their completed thesis.
- Demonstrated understanding of the publication process as it applies to their manuscript of creative work.

APU is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges & Universities. APU is an EO/AA institution.

*Applicants should consult the APU catalog for more specific information regarding coursework and application requirements.

Career Outcomes

MFA graduates continue on to doctoral studies, careers in public or private agencies. Career outcomes include:

- Writing instructor
- Freelance writer
- Editor
- Publisher
- Journalist
- ...and many more.

MFA Admissions Process

Complete online application & fee:

www.alaskapacific.edu/apply

Submit MFA admissions documents:

2 Letters of Recommendation (dated within the last 6 months)

Portfolio of creative work:

- Poetry: 10-pages, one poem per page
- Fiction: 1-story; 15-pages double-spaced
- Literary Nonfiction: 1-piece; 15-pages double-spaced

Official Transcripts

Personal Statement

Send all documents to:

APU Office of Admissions
4101 University Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99508 OR
admissions@alaskapacific.edu

Questions?



1-907-564-8248



admissions@alaskapacific.edu



alaskapacific.edu/admissionsApplication

Application Deadlines

Fall Semester:

February 15 (Priority)/August 1 (Final)

