

CREATIVE NONFICTION WRITING, EDITING AND PUBLISHING CERTIFICATE

The graduate certificate in creative nonfiction writing, editing, and publishing is designed for students interested in becoming more expressive, powerful writers of nonfiction prose. Students interested in securing publication of their writing are mentored in the publication process by the faculty.

The creative nonfiction writing, editing, and publishing certificate is designed for the following students:

- Writers interested in developing and publishing their creative nonfiction;
- Graduate students in English and related fields;
- Educators seeking writing-specific training and credentials;
- Working professionals who either are currently employed or will be seeking employment as experts in written communication;
- Individuals who work in community service organizations;
- Individuals dedicated to cultural activities in the community.

Program Related Information

Program Contact

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Program Website (<http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-arts-and-sciences/english/academics/graduate-programs/#aw>)

Admissions

General Application Requirements and Admission Criteria (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/graduate/admission/>)

Application Deadlines

Spring 2026, Summer 2026, and Fall 2026: Applications for this program are accepted on a rolling basis. All materials must be submitted prior to the beginning of the semester in which the student has elected to begin coursework.

Other Requirements

- Applicants must have completed a baccalaureate degree in English, or a related degree, with at least a 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) GPA
- **English Language Proficiency:** Applicants are required to have a command of oral and written English. Those who do not hold a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from the United States, **OR** a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from a predetermined country on the waiver list (<https://www.unomaha.edu/office-of-graduate-studies/admissions/entrance-exams.php>), must meet the minimum language proficiency score requirement in order to be considered for admission.

- Internet-based TOEFL: 80, IELTS: 6.5, PTE: 53, Duolingo: 105
- If interested in a graduate assistantship minimum scores are as follows. Internet-based TOEFL: 100, IELTS: 7.5, PTE: 68, Duolingo: 130
- **Statement of Purpose** (letter of intent): The statement (of about 500-1000 words) should convey the applicant's interest in creative nonfiction, previous study in the field of English, any relevant work or life experience, reason for pursuing a graduate certificate in creative nonfiction writing, editing and publishing or anything else that conveys the applicant's related creative and intellectual interests.

Degree Requirements

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|---|-----------|
| Required Core Courses | | |
| Select a minimum of 9 credits from the following list: ¹ | | 9 |
| ENGL 8040 | WRITING FOR PUBLICATION | |
| ENGL/CACT 8640 | CREATIVE NONFICTION IN DIGITAL ENVIRONMENTS | |
| ENGL 8800 | SEMINAR: TOPICS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE ² | |
| ENGL 8826 | AUTOBIOGRAPHY | |
| ENGL 8846 | TRAVEL WRITING | |
| ENGL 8850 | SEM: SPIRITUAL NONFICTION | |
| ENGL 8866 | THE MODERN FAMILIAR ESSAY | |
| ENGL 8890 | SEM: EXPERIMENTS IN CREATIVE NONFICTION | |
| ENGL 8936 | NARRATIVE NONFICTION | |
| ENGL 8946 | PUBLISHING THE LINDEN REVIEW | |
| ENGL 8966 | TOPICS IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE ³ | |
| ENGL 8976 | WRITING ABOUT SICKNESS AND HEALTH | |
| Electives | | |
| Select a maximum of 6 credits from the following list: | | 6 |
| ENGL 8100 | SEMINAR: TOPICS IN AMERICAN LITERATURE ⁴ | |
| ENGL 8310 | ECOLOGICAL WRITING AND ANALYSIS | |
| ENGL 8750 | OXBOW WRITING PROJECT | |
| ENGL 8806 | ENGLISH INTERNSHIP | |
| ENGL 8816 | DIGITAL LITERACIES FOR TECHNICAL COMMUNICATORS | |
| ENGL 8836 | TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION | |
| ENGL 8856 | INFORMATION DESIGN FOR TECHNICAL COMMUNICATORS | |
| ENGL 8876 | TECHNICAL EDITING | |
| PA 8520 | SEMINAR IN GRANT WRITING | |
| TED 8410 | IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION: SPECIAL TOPICS | |
| Total Credits | | 15 |

¹ Students may elect to take all 15 credits from the Required Core list. Alternatively, students may elect to take up to 6 of those credits from the Electives list.

² For ENGL 8800, topics must be related to advanced writing such as rhetoric and memory, nature writing, etc.

³ For ENGL 8966, topics must be related to advanced writing such as narrative nonfiction, graphic memoir, food writing, writing women's lives or publishing the Linden Review.

⁴ For ENGL 8100, topic must be Native American Nonfiction.

Exit Requirements

Portfolio Requirement

Students will assemble a portfolio representing their achievement in the five courses (15 hours) applied toward the creative nonfiction writing, editing and publishing certificate. The portfolio will contain at least one writing sample from each course and will be reviewed by the student's advisor and one other graduate faculty member involved in offering courses approved for this certificate. As part of the portfolio requirement, each student will make an oral presentation to the reviewing professors. During that discussion, special attention will be given to each student's professional goals for their writing. Please see the website (<http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-arts-and-sciences/english/academics/graduate-programs/>) for the creative nonfiction writing, editing and publishing graduate certificate for a more detailed description of the portfolio requirement and the deadlines for submission.