

Programs

Master of Fine Arts in Writing (M.F.A.)

(36 credits)

The Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Writing is a graduate professional degree designed to prepare students to develop knowledge of the conventions of specific writing genres, to understand the creative process, and to assess market trends in specific areas of professional writing. Students gain experience in preparing an effective project synopsis and outline, in submitting materials that conform to industry expectations and standards, and in planning and executing a major project in a specific genre of writing.

Upon completing the program of study in Fine Arts in Writing, students will:

- Demonstrate a knowledge of the conventions of specific writing genres.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the creative process.
- Demonstrate a knowledge of market trends in specific areas of professional writing.
- Demonstrate the ability to develop an effective project synopsis, outline, as well as submission materials that conform to industry expectations and standards.
- Demonstrate highly developed writing skills.
- Demonstrate the ability to plan and execute a major project in a specific genre of writing.

Admission Requirements

- A completed application form and a non-refundable \$50 application fee.
- Bachelor's degree from a nationally or regionally accredited institution approved by the [U.S. Department of Education](#) (USDE) or the [Council for Higher Education Accreditation](#) (CHEA).
- Official transcripts from all degree-granting institutions attended that are nationally or regionally accredited and recognized by the USDE or CHEA.
- Minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0.
- Proficiency in essential software and tools, including Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), data analysis tools (such as Excel or statistical software), and communication platforms (e.g., Zoom, Google Meet).
- For non-native English-speakers, a minimum TOEFL score of:
550 (paper-based)
80 (internet-based)
213 (computer-based)
- Proof of identity.
- Applicants using [VA benefits](#) may be required to submit additional documentation, such as a Certificate of Eligibility, upon matriculation to the school certifying official.

- An essay (of 750-1000 words, double-spaced) on “The Writer’s Journey,” detailing the applicant’s personal reflections on the writer’s craft and reasons for applying to the program.
- A sample of written work in one genre as follows:
 - Nonfiction: A completed composition or portion of a piece of at least 2,500 words and a maximum of 5,000.
 - Fiction: A completed composition or portion of a piece of at least 2,500 words and a maximum of 5,000.
 - Poetry: Between 5 and 10 pages containing at least five completed poems.
- Two letters of recommendation from former professors or professional associates specifically addressing suitability for the program.
- Resume providing a profile and indication of the area of writing interest, summary of educational and writing experience (including any publications, current submissions, or works in progress), and employment history.

Tuition and Fees

- Application Fee: \$50.00
- Tutorial Surcharge: \$500.00 (for student requested tutorial)
- Thesis Continuation Fee: \$250.00 per registration period (within seven years of matriculation) until completion of the thesis.

Fees and rates are subject to change.

Transfer Credits

Albertus Magnus College will accept a maximum of 6 graduate hours from nationally or regionally accredited institutions approved by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) toward satisfying the program requirements. Such credits must have been completed prior to entrance into the program and must satisfy degree requirements. Transfer credits must have been completed with a minimum grade of 3.0 within the last five years. Transfer credits will be considered on an individual basis. Students must submit an official transcript showing proof of completion of the course(s) to be transferred. All requests to transfer credits must be completed prior to starting the program.

Accreditation

Albertus Magnus College is accredited by the [New England Commission of Higher Education](#) (NECHE).

The Master of Fine Arts in Writing is accredited by the [State of Connecticut Office of Higher Education](#).

Program Format

Classes are offered in a traditional semester format, which consists of two, sixteen-week terms and one, eight-week summer module during the calendar year. All classes are fully online.

Academic Advisement

Admitted students are assigned a faculty advisor, typically the program director. Together the student and advisor will develop a program of study. Throughout the program the advisor will assist students with course planning, registration and regular academic review.

Course Load

Full-time students must enroll in 9 credits per semester. Part-time students must enroll in 5 credits per semester.

Graduation Requirements

Students are responsible for reviewing the program requirements for their specific catalog year, fulfilling those requirements, and maintaining regular communication with the program director. To earn a graduate degree from Albertus Magnus College, students must successfully complete all program requirements and achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0. All requirements must be completed within seven years of matriculation, beginning with the module or semester in which the student starts their first course in the program. Graduate courses that exceed the time limit no longer count toward meeting program requirements, including transferred courses.

Graduation with Honors

Master’s degree candidates who have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.90 or above and a grade of “A” in all components of the final project/capstone course/thesis are awarded honors and will have the notation included on their transcript and diploma.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

REQUIRED CORE (24 credits)

EN 500	Writing Portfolio
EN 541	The Creative Process
EN 551	The Literary Marketplace
EN 692	Master Project

** Note: EN 500 (1 credit course. Students are required to complete 4 credits throughout the program.) and EN 692 (8 credits)*

Select one (4 credits):

EN 521	Readings in Fiction
EN 522	Readings in Poetry
EN 523	

FLEXIBLE CORE (12 credits)

Take two courses in your primary genre and one course in your secondary genre.

EN 543	Seminar in Poetry I
EN 544	Seminar in Fiction I
EN 545	Seminar in Nonfiction I
EN 643	Seminar in Poetry II
EN 644	Seminar in Fiction II
EN 645	Seminar in Nonfiction II