



LEEDS  
BECKETT  
UNIVERSITY

# Course Specification

## BA (Hons) Creative Writing

Course Code: BCRWC

2024/25

[leedsbeckett.ac.uk](https://leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

# ***BA (Hons) Creative Writing (BCRWR)***

## **Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Undergraduate Entrants**

Confirmed at DEC/2023

### **General Information**

<b>Award</b>	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Creative Writing
<b>Contained Awards</b>	Bachelor of Honours Creative Writing (Level 6) Diploma of Higher Education Creative Writing (Level 5) Certificate of Higher Education Creative Writing (Level 4)
<b>Awarding Body</b>	Leeds Beckett University
<b>Level of Qualification and Credits</b>	Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360 credits in total).
<b>Course Lengths and Standard Timescales</b>	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 years (full time, campus based)</li><li>• 6 years (part time, campus based)</li></ul>
<b>Part Time Study</b>	PT students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence to that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that the work placement option is not generally available to PT students.
<b>Location(s) of Delivery</b>	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.
<b>Entry Requirements</b>	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: <a href="https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/">https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/</a>

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:

[AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

## **Course Fees**

Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to:

[Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

## **Timetable Information**

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

**Policies, Standards and Regulations** (<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>)

There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course.

## **Key Contacts**

### **Your Course Director**

Dr Alison Taft

[a.a.taft@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:a.a.taft@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

### **Your Academic Advisor**

Your Academic Advisor will be selected from lecturing staff and you will be introduced to him or her in induction week.

### **Your Course Administrator**

The name of your Course Administrator/s will be confirmed during induction. Their contact details are:

[EnglishAdmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:EnglishAdmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

## **Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course**

### **Professional Body**

N/A

### **Accreditation/ Recognition Summary**

N/A

## Course Overview

The Creative Writing BA (Hons) is designed to allow you the flexibility to develop your own creative, professional portfolio of written work within your chosen field or genre. You can specialise at each level of the programme and through the choices you make in the six creative portfolio modules (Writing Reflections, The Art of Presentation, Pitching & Submitting, Writing Industry, Your Creative Future and The Writing Audience). For example, if your chosen field is screenwriting, you may choose to submit assignments written in this form throughout the entire programme. Or you may decide to broaden your knowledge of different forms by selecting a different focus at each level – for example, poetry in your first year and prose fiction in the second. The Creative Writing Project, a forty credit module, allows for a sustained piece of writing in any form.

## Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

- Acquire and develop the necessary practical, technical and intellectual skills to perform successfully as professional and creative writers in the medium of your choice.
- Allow sufficient time, space and creative freedom to develop your writing practice through exploratory and experimental enquiry
- Identify and engage with a range of texts and media, in order to develop a range of practical skills as appropriate to your writing practice and needs
- Locate and situate your practice within the wider literary, contemporary and cultural context of your chosen field or genre
- Develop a reflective approach in order to be able to make critical and contextual evaluations of your own work and that of other writers
- Develop the independence and transferable enterprise skills that are applicable to a broad range of post-graduate opportunities, including professional writing practice, further study and wider employment possibilities.

## Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

No.	Learning Outcome
1	Understand how to create compelling, impactful pieces of creative writing that engage the reader. You will understand how to structure your writing, where your strengths and weaknesses lie, the themes that emerge through your writing, and the unique hallmarks to your writing style. You will be able to reflect on your own creative process and recognise the conditions you need for sustained creative practice. You will have a developed portfolio of industry-aware writing and a plan for how to implement your learning post-graduation.
2	Deconstruct texts to understand how and why stories and/or poems work. You will be able to recognise and articulate good writing and good writing practice and will have a broad knowledge of a diverse range of genre and forms of writing. You will demonstrate awareness

	of the cultural contexts within which a source text sits. You will be able to apply learned knowledge to your own creative work in order to strengthen and improve your writing.
3	Share work with other writers on the course, as well as with a wider audience, giving and receiving constructive verbal and written feedback designed to help yourself and others improve. You will be confident in communicating your ideas to others and you will be able to work in small groups to create, collaborate and problem-solve.
4	Edit and redraft work, taking into account the principles of the craft of creative writing and story-telling technique and understanding how these techniques can be applied to improve and refine your work. You will have an applied understanding of basic principles such as showing not telling and creating knowledge gaps (subtext). Demonstrate high-level editorial skills to a professional level. Evaluate creative practices to find solutions to problems.
5	Reflect on your own product and processes in order to understand how your work fits within the broader literary and cultural background, to recognise the codes and conventions of genre and form and be aware of the key influences within your particular field. You will have a developing awareness of the relevant audience for your work and how to reach it.
6	Through independent, extended project working and presentations, recognise and be able to demonstrate the key enterprise skills of creativity, communication, collaborative problem solving and critical thinking and how to apply them in your future creative, professional life. You will have thought clearly about your future beyond graduation and will be aware of the next steps you need to take to achieve your ambitions.

## Teaching and Learning Activities

### Summary

Scheduled contact time is primarily delivered by means of lectures, seminars and workshops. Lectures and seminars will be delivered in person. Additional learning resources will also be provided online via our Virtual Learning Environment. Seminars and workshops are particularly important as forums in which students work together, developing ideas and working collaboratively and independently with the guidance of a tutor. The Creative Professional Portfolio strand will embed professional practice skills into the course and students will be required to produce industry-aware assignments these modules. An example of this might be pitching your work to a panel of industry professionals, or delivering a presentation to peers and tutors, or publishing your work through online platforms or self-publication options. Learning for this strand of modules is via asynchronous delivery, but with scheduled (timetabled) tutorial support.

The use of digital technology is a key aspect of the learning and teaching in various modules, including in creative writing workshops. Where academic content and good educational practice make it appropriate, student learning will be facilitated through a range of digital technologies and students will be trained in curate their own writing through online platforms. Creative Professional Portfolio modules are delivered primarily by use of digital technologies with support from tutors in person.

Independent learning will comprise guided creative writing tasks and reflective exercises on the creative process, such as keeping a reflective journal as well as producing, and in some cases and where appropriate, publishing to a professional brief. Reading of literary texts and other materials in advance of taught sessions comprises a major element of independent learning. The Creative Professional Portfolio strand is designed to help you think about how to sustain your writing practice beyond graduation.

In addition to the learning that takes place in the modules, students are offered a range of supplementary activities to enhance their experience on the course. Academic Advisors are assigned to all students and offer pastoral and academic support, including academic writing tuition. Further study skills support is offered centrally through Skills 4 Learning and our subject librarians.

## Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Part time students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 4			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Writers' Workshop 1 (20 credits)	Y	Writers' Workshop 2 (20 credits)	Y
Contemporary Literary Studies (20 credits)	Y	Adaptation (20 credits)	Y
Creative Professional Portfolio – Writing Reflections (20 credits)	Y	Creative Professional Portfolio – The Art of Presentation (20 credits)	Y

Level 5			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Writing Fictions (20 credits)	Y	Writing Poetry (20 credits)	Y
Screenwriting (20 credits)	Y	Theory into Practice (20 credits)	Y
Creative Professional Portfolio – Pitching & Submitting	Y	Creative Professional Portfolio – Writing Industry	Y

Level 5			
(20 credits)		(20 credits)	

Level 6			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Life Writing (20 credits)	Y	Experimental Writing (20 credits)	Y
Creative Writing Project (delivered across Semesters 1 and 2) (40 credits)	Y	Creative Writing Project (delivered across Semesters 1 and 2) (40 credits)	Y
Creative Professional Portfolio – Your Creative Future (20 credits)	Y	Creative Professional Portfolio – The Writer & Audience (20 credits)	Y

## Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities by Level

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

### Assessment

Level 4 is assessed by coursework

Level 5 is assessed by coursework which includes some practical assessment elements

Level 6 is assessed by coursework which includes some practical assessment elements

### Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	168 hours	168 hours	108 hours
Independent Study	1032 hours	1032 hours	1092 hours

The above figures are based on 36 hours of contact per module, other than for the Creative Professional Portfolio modules which are based on 24 hours of contact per module, and the Creative Writing Project in Level 6 which is based on 12 hours of contact across both semesters.

## **Learning Support**

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

## **Student Services**

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at [studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk), telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

## **Support and Opportunities**

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.