



www.sbu.edu/admissions • admissions@sbu.edu • (800) 462-5050

B.A. in Professional and Creative Writing

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Major Information

The Professional and Creative Writing major is a collaborative effort between the School of Journalism and Mass Communication and the Department of English. The course of study, which leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree, builds upon existing and new course offerings in both programs.

The major provides students a broad foundation not only in the practices of writing in the modern world, but also in a critical approach to those practices. It offers students a focused and intensive education both in creative and professional writing pointed toward the twin aims of perfecting craft and understanding both the publication process and the process of joining and sustaining creative communities. The major trains students in the professional expectations of writing practices in a variety of media, always drawing on the creative impulses that have led students to the writing major in the first place. The result is an academic degree that has sharpened students' creative and professional writing abilities, giving them a sense of direction and purpose.

Major Features

Aside from exploring more traditional areas of creative writing like fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction, St. Bonaventure's program offers students opportunities to explore newer areas, like video game scripting and blogging. An emphasis on digital technology is woven throughout the curriculum.

The program also has built-in a significant experiential learning component to give students real-world skills and experience in writing- and publishing-related fields. Students will have the opportunity to work in on-campus media, professional internships and the senior-level Writers

Project. Students will serve as the editorial staff for an online literary magazine that will service not only the university, but the wider Western New York community as well.

Opportunities for writers are everywhere, including media, business, entertainment, non-profit, and publishing industries.

Our Faculty

The Professional and Creative Writing major draws on a St. Bonaventure tradition of writing that includes six Pulitzer Prize winners and alumni in all facets of writing and communications careers, from sportswriters and bloggers to magazine editors, public relations practitioners, news anchors, publishing executives and college professors.

Requirements for degree

Professional and Creative Writing: 36 credits

- Writing Core: 15 credits
- Theory/Criticism: 3 credits
- Professional Writing: 3 credits
- Creative Writing: 6 credits
- Advanced Creative Writing: 3 credits
- Capstone Experience: 6 credits

Foreign Language: One modern or classical language course at the 202 level or above

Quantitative Reasoning: 3 credits

Clare College (Core Curriculum at SBU): 36 credits

General Electives: 42 credits

Total: 120 credits