The MFA in Creative Writing in English at HKU is a unique full-time programme at the HKU Black Box & Guild. Beginning in 2024, the MFA is also uniquely situated to draw strength with its new counterpart, the MA in Creative Communications, an innovative programme drawing on the perspectives of cognate arts, along with the history and futures of creativity.

The first of its kind in Hong Kong and Asia, the MFA in Creative Writing at HKU features the contemporary voice in multilingual contexts. Intense study of design, across the arts, includes compelling historical foundations and fluidity of craft. A customised combination of coursework, workshops, and studios offers each writer opportunities in the artistic environment of the Guild and the new MACC to explore creative writing, design practices, and the wider vision of a writer’s “built environment” on global audiences. At the same time, in Workshops throughout the year, each writer joins in a community of shared fellowship and passion for creative writing and the cognate arts. Each writer at the end of the year produces a signature work, The Creative Thesis, an original manuscript revised for submission and potential publication, which marks the beginning of each writer's lifelong practices and mastery in the journey of creative writing.

Applications are invited for admission to read for the MFA degree in the field of Creative Writing in English commencing in September 2023. The application deadlines are Round 1: 12:00 noon (GMT +8), December 29, 2023 and Round 2: 12:00 noon (GMT +8), April 5, 2024. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis.

Admission Requirements

2. To be eligible for admission to the programme, a candidate shall satisfy both the University Admission Requirements and the Programme Specific Requirements as listed below:

   (a) shall comply with the General Regulations;

   (b) shall
      (i) hold a good Bachelor’s degree of this University; or a qualification of equivalent standard from this University or another comparable institution accepted for this purpose; and
      (ii) possess prior experience and knowledge of creative writing in English;

   (c) for a candidate who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong of which the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to higher degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b).

   The programme has its specific requirements with regard to TOEFL and IELTS:

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<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Minimum requirement</th>
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<tr>
<td>TOEFL: Paper-based test (PBT)</td>
<td>Overall score of 550 with 4 in Test of Written English (TWE); or</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOEFL: Internet-based test (iBT)</td>
<td>Overall score of 80 with 25 in Writing; or</td>
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<td>IELTS</td>
<td>Band 7 with no subtest lower than 5.5</td>
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   Note: Only TOEFL/IELTS scores recorded in the two years before the date of application are considered.

   (d) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination and/or interview if required.

3. An application for exemption from the above requirements shall be considered on a case-by-case basis.
Application

4. Applications for this programme and payment of application fee (HK$300 per application) should be submitted online at https://admissions.hku.hk/tpg.

5. After submitting the online application, applicants are required to upload the supporting documents within one month starting from the date of receipt of the email notification. A checklist of the required supporting documents is available at https://admissions.hku.hk/tpg/programme-list.

6. In order to support the University’s environmental friendly initiatives, documents uploaded to the system should NOT be delivered to the University by post in duplicate, except for the official score report of TOEFL / IELTS.

7. Applicants who do not hear from the Faculty of Arts by August 31, 2024 may assume their applications unsuccessful.

Regulations and Syllabuses

8. The regulations and syllabuses for the programme can be viewed at https://admissions.hku.hk/tpg/programme-list.

Concurrent Studies

9. General Regulation G6(b)(i) prohibits concurrent registration by a student of this University for any other post-secondary qualification either at this University or at any educational institution, unless approval of the Senate has been obtained in advance. Students in breach of this regulation may be required to discontinue their studies at this University.

Visa for Studies

10. If you are not a holder of a Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card, a dependent visa, a work visa or an IANG (Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates) visa, you must obtain a student visa before registration in our programmes. Normally the student visa is only granted to those admitted to full-time studies. Students are responsible for ensuring that they have a valid visa and register in the programmes before the study begins. If any student fails to register in time, the offer of admission may be withdrawn and all fees already paid will not be refunded.

November 2023