

WRITING

An ethos of generosity guides the MFA in Writing Program at Sarah Lawrence—a belief that thriving as a writer can go hand in hand with helping other writers thrive.

Sarah Lawrence's MFA in Writing faculty members are both distinguished writers and devoted mentors. At the heart of our program are biweekly, one-on-one student-teacher conferences, in which our faculty engages with your work in depth, accompanying you every step of the way as you explore the possibilities of your art.

Our vibrant community of writers features monthly student readings, the student-run literary magazines *Lumina* and *Lux*, and a student-run annual poetry festival, as well as our literary colloquium, a weekly series of talks by faculty members, visiting writers, and publishing industry professionals.

COURSE OF STUDY

Overview

- ▶ Students choose to concentrate in fiction, creative nonfiction, or poetry.
- ▶ Each semester, full-time students participate in a workshop and a craft class and attend the literary colloquium. In workshops, students practice their writing and receive thoughtful feedback on their work. During their course of study, they take four workshops, usually with four different writers. This encourages students to explore an array of perspectives and techniques.
- ▶ Each student meets biweekly with workshop faculty in one-on-one conferences. In our craft seminars, students discuss published writing and learn to read as writers.
- ▶ Taking a workshop in another genre is permitted; taking craft classes outside one's genre is not only permitted but encouraged.
- ▶ Sarah Lawrence MFA students can take full advantage of the College's proximity to the New York City literary scene.

FACULTY

Our faculty members receive Pulitzer Prizes and Guggenheim Fellowships. They are Pen/Faulkner Award nominees and poet laureates. Respected in their fields, they are exemplary models of personal commitment to artistic literary expression. The Princeton Review has consistently recognized our teachers as among the very best in the country.

Members of the regular MFA Writing faculty include: Jo Ann Beard, Carolyn Ferrell, Matthea Harvey, Cathy Park Hong, Marie Howe, Kate Knapp Johnson, Mary La Chapelle, Jeffrey McDaniel, Mary Morris, Brian Morton, Dennis Nurkse, Joan Silber, and Vijay Seshadri.

Recent guest faculty members have included: Tina Chang, Cynthia Cruz, Nick Flynn, Garth Risk Hallberg, James Hannaham, David Hollander, Gregory Pardlo, Nelly Reiffer, David Ryan, and Martha Southgate.

FICTION, POETRY, &
CREATIVE NONFICTION

THE PROGRAM

The MFA in Writing Program can be completed on a full-time basis in two years or part-time in three or four years. Students are required to complete four writing workshops, one per semester (5 credits each); four craft-of-writing classes, one per semester (4 credits each); four semesters of the literary colloquium (1 credit per semester); and a master's thesis.

ADMISSION

Applicants to the MFA in Writing Program must have received a Bachelor of Arts or equivalent degree from an accredited college or university.

FINANCIAL AID

Assistance for students in our graduate writing program is available through three fellowships: Grace Paley Fellowships (for fiction writers), Jane Cooper Fellowships (for poetry writers), and Randall Jarrell Fellowships (for nonfiction writers).

More than half of Sarah Lawrence's graduate students work on campus in a variety of positions: as research assistants for undergraduate faculty, as assistants in the writing program, in the College library or financial aid office, and at other sites on campus.

Each year, three MFA writing students serve in paid positions as mentors in the undergraduate Writing Center.

The writing program also offers scholarship assistance for students who demonstrate financial need.

ABOUT SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE

Sarah Lawrence is located on a wooded suburban campus just 30 minutes north of Midtown Manhattan. Offering both graduate and undergraduate degrees, the College is nationally known for academic rigor and commitment to developing students as individuals. Sarah Lawrence College is also noted for cross-disciplinary study and integrated learning, making it an ideal academic setting for the MFA in Writing Program.

GRADUATE STUDIES

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LEARN MORE

We invite you to visit
sarahlawrence.edu/writing-mfa
for more information.

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