Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing 2014-15

**Application Instructions**

If you have questions about the application process, please contact Graduate Admissions at 612-330-1101 or [gradinfo@augsburg.edu](mailto:gradinfo@augsburg.edu).

**Application Components**

All MFA applicants must complete and submit an admission file that includes:

* Completed Online application form.
* $50 application fee—waived if you apply online
* Official transcripts from ALL post-secondary schools attended
* Two Letters of Recommendation (see below)
* Essay (see below)
* Samples of your creative work in the genre which you are applying;
* Fiction and Creative Non-Fiction—20 pages double-spaced
* Poetry—15-20 pages, single-spaced
* Screenwriting—between 15 to 30 pages, standard screenwriting script format
* Playwriting— between 15 to 30 pages, standard playwriting script format

\*\*NOTE—you may apply to more than one genre by requesting the shortened app for all genres beyond your first choice from the admissions office—use the above information to call or email us.

**Application Deadline**

Priority Deadline: February 1st.

The MFA program admits on a rolling basis each genre is full.  Applications received will be reviewed and given a decision as they are completed.  Applicants may be waitlisted and will be notified if openings occur.

**Application Requirements**

You may apply for admission to the Augsburg College Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing if you have received a bachelor’s degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university. Selection of students is based on demonstrated academic ability with satisfactory performance in college work.

**How to apply for admission**

First, we recommend you start your application process by filling out the online application form <https://app.applyyourself.com/AYApplicantLogin/ApplicantConnectLogin.asp?id=augsburg-g> and submitting it, then sending your $50 no-nrefundable application fee to the Graduate Studies Admissions Office (Campus Box 65). Next, we suggest you request your transcripts and your recommendations, as these are difficult for you to control in terms of timeliness. Lastly, write your essay and compile your essay and writing samples.

**Transcripts**

Official transcripts for every undergraduate credit that were part of your bachelor’s degree are needed for the graduate application process. Transcripts from any previous graduate level work is also needed.

You may request your official transcripts from your past institutes of higher learning and send them to Augsburg College by mail or electronic transfer.

By mail:

Graduate Admissions Office, CB 65

Augsburg College

2211 Riverside Ave.

Minneapolis, MN 55454

By electronic transfer:

Augsburg College uses Scrip-Safe, Docufide/Parchment as official transfer services. If you wish to use a different transfer service, please call 612-330-1101 to check on the feasibility of other options. Please send documents to **admissiondocs@augsburg.edu** .

After you request an electronic transcript, please send an email to [gradinfo@augsburg.edu](mailto:gradinfo@augsburg.edu) indicating that a transcript has been ordered. Include your name, desired degree program, electronic transfer service used and the name of the sending institution.

**International Applicant**

For those applicants who have completed course work from an institution outside of the United States, official transcripts should be sent directly to an evaluation service. Do not send transcripts directly to our office. The credential evaluators will send us (and you) a report. You should ask for three things: a degree equivalency evaluation, a GPA calculation, and a course-by-course analysis. There are two credential evaluation services we recommend: Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.: <http://www.ece.org>, or World Education Services: <http://www.wes.org>.

In some instances, it is advisable to also have your Upper Secondary records sent to the credential evaluators—for example, if your bachelor’s degree program was only three years long. In order to be considered for admission the credential evaluation report we receive must indicate your degree is equivalent to a four-year bachelor’s degree from the U.S. Start this process early! Requesting your transcript and having the evaluation done can take several weeks, even months in some cases.

If English is not your primary language, or if you received your bachelor’s degree from an institution outside the U.S., you may be asked to take the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language). Contact our office to find out if you will be required to take the test. For the TOEFL, the required minimum scores are: paper-600 and Internet-100. Please visit the TOEFL website at <http://www.toefl.org> for more information on the test.

**To apply for Financial Aid**

Financial aid applications are managed by Augsburg’s Enrollment Center. Instructions for submitting a financial aid application are available at <http://www.augsburg.edu/finaid>. You will also need to complete the fafsa for us to process your financial aid application. Find that online at [www.**fafsa**.ed.gov/](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/).

**Recommendations**

Select two individuals who can describe your potential to complete independent creative and critical work and assess your ability to work with others. You will have the choice when filling out the online application to have these letters sent via mail or online. If you choose online an email will send the checklist directly to your choices. If you choose offline you will need to make sure your recommenders get the checklist which can be found in the application process section of the MFA website. Letters of recommendation should be sent directly to the Graduate Studies Admission Office (Campus Box 65).

Recommenders should use the following criteria when writing their letters:

1. In what capacity have you known the applicant and for how long?
2. Describe the candidate’s potential to complete independent creative and critical work.
3. Discuss the candidate’s ability to work with others and capacity to give and receive criticism of creative work.

**Typed Personal Statement**

Please answer the following questions in a response that is no more than three pages long.

1. Describe your goals as a writer and how you see an MFA in Creative Writing helping you reach those goals.
2. Tell about a moment when you knew you wanted to do something with your writing.
3. As you work toward an MFA, you will receive a great deal of critical commentary on your creative work. You will also, be expected to take part in the analysis of fellow MFA candidates’ writing during the workshop sessions. How do you react to receiving and giving this type of commentary?

**Return the application and related materials to:**

**Graduate Admissions Office**

**CB 65**

**Augsburg College**

**2211 Riverside Avenue**

**Minneapolis, MN 55454**