

A discussion on the direction and nature of your chosen discipline and their relationship within the wider range of humanities.

Creative writing is one of the many humanities subjects that plays a crucial role within each subject itself. Creative writing delivers our history in the form of poems and great novels, it preaches our philosophy in recorded quotes and flowing speeches, it allows us to rebuild fallen structures that once stood thanks to great architects, it gives us the opportunity to examine the world of anthropology; to document our knowledge and findings. The humanities thrive off of creative writing. It is the blood that keeps the humanities going; it flows through the veins of philosophy and anthropology and history. However, the topic itself must first be discussed. So, what is creative writing?

Creative writing is the study and the act of, well, writing, specifically writing in a creative and not always factual way, something which differs from the majority of other humanitarian subjects. While Philosophers do not speak of inherent fact, they do not pry at fiction. Creative writing is the only humanities subject that does just that. Fiction and fact are the playthings of creative writers, while other humanitarian studies hunt for the truth. As stated by the Thompson Writing Program of Duke University "Creative writing is a form of artistic expression. It draws on the imagination to convey meaning through the use of imagery, narrative, and drama. This is in contrast to analytic or pragmatic forms of writing." Fiction is based at the very core of creative writing. One cannot use up creativity. The more creativity you use, the more you have to play with.

Creative writing comes in many forms and sub-categories; script writing, novel writing, poetry and memoirs are just a few of the many sub-disciplines of creative writing. Poets litter the history of man and stories, written by talented authors, pave the path of our past into our present, and even into our future. Creative writing focuses on development, whether that be development of character, a storyline, narrative or plot.

But how does creative writing relate to the humanities? In Philosophy, great men and women preach inspiring speeches, record their philosophical perspective through quotes and they have given us great life lessons to teach ourselves and our loved ones. The imaginative and creative minds of philosophers are quite similar to those of creative writers, who do a very similar thing, albeit with a very different method. Creative writers use fiction to give us these lessons. They take blank pages and bring them to life. While philosophers do not speak of fiction, nor use it to build their perspectives, there are not many facts to be shared either. It is their creativity that binds Philosophers and Creative Writers together.

Creative writers are everywhere throughout history. Great pinnacles of history, like William Shakespeare, Francesco Petrarch and George Orwell have all played a part in shaping our past, giving us poems and stories to teach our young ones. William Shakespeare shaped how screenwriting is created today with his imaginative plays. Both Petrarch and Shakespeare gave birth to the poetry form; a sonnet, and gave us wonderful stories in their own unique formats. George Orwell conjured books and granted us world titles such as "Nineteen Eighty-Four" and "Animal Farm" for us to learn from and enjoy. And, in his own way, George Orwell gave his own slice of philosophy through one of his famous quotes, "He who controls the past controls the future; who controls the present controls the past."

The study of “classics” and the study of creative writing work hand in hand with one another. The study of the classics is the study of ancient roman, latin and ancient greek texts which, in themselves, are a form of creative writing. So how do they connect? Well, the classics are the study of past writings. The classics study creative writers of the ancient times thousands of years ago, as well as their culture, literature and material. They analyse creative minds that have had their last ideas and final creative thoughts. They examine the proof that there were great minds before ours.

Unlike other forms of writing, Creative writing knows no bounds. There are no rules, no roadblocks. Creative writers can write anything that they can think of. Historians must document the past and the present. They must research the former states of man so that humanity may learn from them. Architects write of their own personal experiences and write from memory, or they keep journals to document their work. Philosophers explore our very existence and reality inside and out. They ask questions that no one might even think of. Creative writers, on the other hand, make new realities. They explore existences that have yet to exist and never will exist. The art of creative writing exists throughout all of time. It is an art that has been continued for hundreds of years and one that will continue for thousands more.