

# Master of Creative Writing

*Do you have a story to tell?*

Your Master of Creative Writing awaits. Cultivate great writing through contemporary learning in a nurturing environment.

Creative  
thinkers  
made here.



**Creative thinking.** It's essential for tackling challenges. Seizing opportunities. For today. But more importantly, tomorrow.

It's essential for all roles. It's not a skill people are born with. So at ECU, we teach it. So you can give your future... superpower.



# Table of contents

## Who?

Faculty profiles	04
------------------	----

## What?

Why study a Master of Creative Writing?	05
Course overview	06
Course structure	11
Unit descriptions	14

## How ?

Admission requirements	16
Fees and financial assistance	17

## Why?

Where will this take me?	18
Inspirational works	19
About ECU Online	20

## When?

Conect with us	22
How to apply	24

ECU is committed to reconciliation and recognises and respects the significance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' communities, cultures and histories. ECU acknowledges and respects the Noongar people as the traditional custodians of the land on which our campuses are located.

## *Masterful guides...*

Our coursework feels like one long writing retreat you never have to go home from, and the faculty members are the mentors you've been longing for.



**Dr Aksel Dadswell**  
Lecturer

Dr Aksel Dadswell is an award-winning West Australian horror and weird fiction writer. Holding a PhD in creative writing, his work explores race and belonging, featured in anthologies like *Test Patterns: Creature Features* (2018) and *Hymns of Abomination: Secret Songs of Leeds* (2021).



**Donna Mazza**  
Associate Professor

Associate Professor Donna Mazza is a notable fiction writer and researcher who specialises in environmental and feminist speculative fiction. Her recent novel *Fauna* (2020) was shortlisted for the Aurealis Best Science Fiction Novel.

She's the author of *The Albanian* (2007), winning the TAG Hungerford Award. Donna is a prominent figure in conferences, festivals and radio discussions while also contributing to public art projects.

# *Once upon a time...*

There was a storyteller who harnessed the power of words to bridge hearts, minds and cultures.

They crafted a tapestry of shared experiences that enlightened, connected and inspired with a force so potent it reshaped the world.

**That storyteller is you.**

With ECU's Online Master of Creative Writing, you will discover how to unleash your innate creativity and transform it into captivating narratives.

You will cultivate advanced storytelling techniques to craft and refine narratives that resonate with audiences while honouring the essence of the written art.

**Write Your Future – Enrol Today**



## Have questions?

Book a quick 15-minute chat with a [Student Enrolment Advisor](#).

**Schedule a call**

# Master of Creative Writing

10 units / 9 units (Fast-Track)

ECU's Online Master of Creative Writing empowers aspiring writers to hone their skills and make a profound impact through innovative storytelling and literary finesse, reaching audiences across various mediums.

Amplify your skills in the art of creative expression with the capacity to construct and shape narratives that resonate with your audience. By immersing yourself in core units like Writing and Empathy, Writing Fiction that Scares and Unsettles, Writing for the Planet's Future, and Editing and Publishing, you will master writing techniques to spark transformation and captivate audiences.

Whether you seek to refine your creative prowess or transition into a fulfilling writing career, this postgraduate degree equips you with the tools to excel in the dynamic and ever-evolving realm of storytelling.

If you already have a relevant degree or current professional qualification, you may be able to fast-track and complete the Master of Creative Writing in only nine units\*.

[\\*See entry requirements on page 17 for more information.](#)

[\\*\\*Duration depends on individual study path and unit availability. Please speak to a Student Enrolment Advisor for advice.](#)





### **Craft compelling stories**

Immerse yourself in a dynamic curriculum carefully designed to refine and enhance your proficiency in the realm of fiction. Explore the appeal and nuance of a variety of genres.

Peel back the shadowy layers of Australian gothic and build groundbreaking new worlds in science fiction. With the guidance of industry experts, you'll uncover the secrets to crafting stories that elicit powerful emotions and leave a lasting impact.



### **Refine your writing mastery**

Invigorate your writing craft and ignite a passion for creative expression. With a deep focus on honing essential skills and understanding the intricacies of the writing process, you'll embark on a transformative journey of self-discovery and artistic growth.

Discover the art of originating innovative ideas and nurturing them into a fully developed written work.



### **Writing for social and global change**

The power of words meets the urgent call of the environment and the profound exploration of empathy. Expand the emotional and cultural scope of your writing as you engage in these unique units designed to provoke deep thinking and meaningful writing. Be equipped to create stories that inspire compassion, foster understanding and initiate positive change.



### **Fast-tracked with gateway qualifications**

Eligible students can fast-track their Master of Creative Writing and complete their degree in only nine units, which is 18 months of part-time study. Students can also benefit from gateway qualifications that allow them to build towards their master's degree via the Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma.



# Graduate Certificate of Creative Writing

## 3 units

Designed for those eager to enhance their writing skills, this program engages students in exploring modern writing principles and practices, empowering them to flourish as adept wordsmiths.

Delve into essential units like Writing Fiction, Writing Realities and Writing for Performance to build a solid foundation for your creative writing journey.

Whether you're aiming to amplify your creative writing skills or embark on a new writing career, this Graduate Certificate equips you with the necessary tools to thrive in the world of storytelling.

With the Graduate Certificate of Creative Writing, you can choose to study any three electives from five units to build towards your creative writing journey.

[Learn more about the units you can study on page 12.](#)

Upon successfully completing your Graduate Certificate, you can continue your studies with ECU Online and gain your Graduate Diploma or Master of Creative Writing.





# Graduate Diploma of Creative Writing

## 6 units

ECU's Diploma of Creative Writing is designed for those passionate about refining their writing skills.

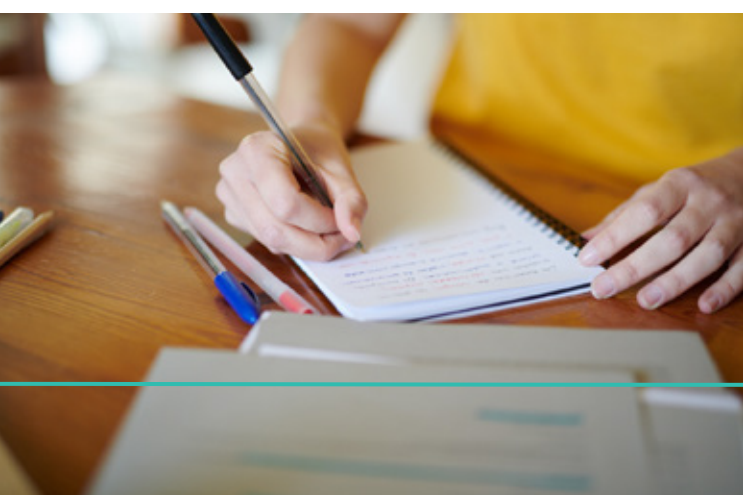
This program guides students through modern writing principles and practices, empowering them to flourish as accomplished storytellers.

Whether you aspire to elevate your writing capabilities or embark on a writing-focused career, this Diploma equips you with the essential tools to excel in the realm of creative storytelling.

With the Graduate Diploma of Creative Writing, you can choose to explore six pivotal units within the course structure provided to equip you with indispensable skills needed to craft compelling narratives.

[Learn more about the units you can study on page 12.](#)

Upon successful completion of your Diploma, you can continue to shape your expertise by progressing to the Master of Creative Writing. Delving further into your passion and refining your craft across a range of advanced units and an extended writing project.





### **Enhance your writing craft**

Build a contemporary toolkit of creative writing techniques, allowing you to generate fresh ideas, unleash your artistic potential and write the stories you're burning to tell.



### **Diverse forms of writing**

Engage with diverse forms of writing, including fiction, poetry and plays, as well as non-fiction, including content writing, in our immersive and hands-on course.



### **Write your original stories**

Tailor your skills to the forms of writing that inspire you with our dynamic course. Apply new learnings to passion projects and work towards personal writing goals. Choose electives that align with your interests.



### **Accelerated and supported**

Enjoy seamless flexibility with 24/7 access to our learning platform, allowing you to balance full-time work commitments. With intakes every two months, focus on one subject at a time — instantly enhancing your career and organisational value.

# *Embrace the journey...*

We've put together an inspiring and intuitive course structure to nurture our writers and fuel their creativity.

---

## Graduate Certificate of Creative Writing T98

### **Duration:**

3 units/6 months part-time

### **Choose any three units to study from:**

**Selection of 3 units from a pool of 5:**

#### **Foundation**

- Writing Fiction
- Writing Realities
- Writing for Performance
- Writing and Audience
- Editing and Publishing

---

## Graduate Diploma of Creative Writing T97

### **Duration:**

6 units/12 months (1 year) part-time

### **Choose any six units to study from:**

**Selection of 6 units from a pool of 8:**

#### **Foundation and advanced**

- Writing Fiction
  - Writing Realities
  - Writing for Performance
  - Writing and Audience
  - Editing and Publishing
  - Writing for the Planet's Future
  - Writing and Empathy
  - Writing Fiction that Scares and Unsettles
-

---

# Master of Creative Writing T96

## Duration:

10 units/24 months (2 years) part-time

## Units you will study:

### Foundation

- Writing Fiction
- Writing Realities
- Writing for Performance
- Writing and Audience
- Editing and Publishing

### Advanced

- Writing for the Planet's Future
- Writing and Empathy
- Writing Fiction that Scares and Unsettles

### Capstone (double-weighted)

- Writing Project Research and Development
- Writing Project Resolve and Reflect



---

## Master of Creative Writing (Fast-Track) T96

### Duration:

7 units/18 months (1.5 years part-time)

If you already have a relevant degree or current professional qualification, you may be able to fast-track and complete your Master of Creative Writing in only nine units.\*

\*See entry requirements on [page 17](#) for more information.

\*\*Duration depends on individual study path and unit availability. Please [speak to a Student Enrolment Advisor](#) for advice.

### Units you will study:

#### Foundation and advanced

- Writing and Audience
- Editing and Publishing
- Writing for the Planet's Future
- Writing and Empathy
- Writing Fiction that Scares and Unsettles

#### Capstone (double-weighted)

- Writing Project Research and Development
- Writing Project Resolve and Reflect

---

## Have questions?

Book a quick 15-minute chat with a [Student Enrolment Advisor](#).

**Schedule a call**

# Chapter by chapter...

Your journey to your Master of Creative Writing will unfold before you like the chapters of a book you simply can't put down.

## Writing Fiction / WRT6400

### Unit description

The stories of our culture are the things that define us for future generations. Storytelling is an integral part of who we are and how we relate to each other. This unit introduces the fundamentals of writing fiction through reading a range of short stories. It includes elements of literary craft such as narrative theory, point of view, voice, writing dialogue and characterisation.

## Writing Realities / WRT6405

### Unit description

The truth is stranger than fiction, or so they say. This unit explores writing based on actual events, including history, biography, true crime and stories of place and family. It includes narrative strategies for non-fiction and creative non-fiction and introduces techniques for research and content writing for online audiences.

## Writing for Performance / WRT6410

### Unit description

Theatre comes from a long tradition dating back to Ancient Greece and First Nations Peoples, telling the story of who we are and where we come from. This unit introduces skills for writing drama or monologue for performance. It explores the use of language in different ways for different forms that are intended to be experienced live or aloud. Journals will be used as a means to capture ideas and refine drafts.

## Writing and Audience / WRT6415

### Unit description

Writers need readers, and an awareness of your audience can help you improve your craft and message. This unit cultivates a writer's understanding of their work with consideration of genre and readership, including online audiences. Students will develop a deep understanding of diversity and their own voice in writing and explore writing for specific audiences, such as popular fiction, young adults and children.





## Editing and Publishing / WRT6420

### Unit description

The publication process is an essential element in a successful writer's career, and new writers need to know the steps involved in this journey to realise the full potential of their creative work. This unit explores the business of writing, editing and publishing, including processes and workflow for professional editing, seeking publication and presenting the professional author platform.

## Writing for the Planet's Future / WRT6425

### Unit description

We live in an age of upheaval and environmental change, and writers are at the forefront of helping us negotiate the human condition with this new paradigm. This unit takes an ecocritical approach to writing about place and environment in the production of fiction, poetry and non-fiction. It explores authors who highlight contemporary environmental concerns through a variety of lenses, such as cli-fi, post-apocalyptic and ecofeminist work.

## Writing and Empathy / WRT6430

### Unit description

Stories give us a window into the emotions and experiences of others, and it is essential for writers to find ways to depict authentic emotions to build a connection with their audience. This unit explores the core practice of writing and embodiment — including writing about love and characters outside our own viewpoint. It includes writing with empathy about animals and the non-human world and drawing on your own lived experiences.

## Writing Fiction that Scares and Unsettles / WRT6435

### Unit description

Fear is fundamental to the human experience, and scary stories take us back to our origins. This unit explores the darker aspects of fiction, including genres such as horror and gothic, as well as thematic concerns like violence, trauma and conflict. It introduces the sublime, which examines our reaction to forces beyond our understanding in form, scale and time.

## Writing Project: Research and Development / WRT6440

### Unit description

This is the first of two capstone units that give writing students a deep dive into a project of their choice. In this unit, students initiate, plan and develop a writing project, which is of a significant scope. It includes the development of a premise and synopsis to summarise their work for a future publisher.

## Writing Project: Resolve and Reflect / WRT6450

### Unit description

Students conclude their writing journey in this second capstone unit to see the realisation of their dream projects. In this unit, students continue and complete the project initiated in the first Writing Project unit. Then, they create a podcast to get a feel for presenting their work to a future audience.

# Plotting your path...

## Master of Creative Writing / Graduate Diploma of Creative Writing / Graduate Certificate of Creative Writing

**To gain entry to the Master of Creative Writing, Graduate Diploma of Creative Writing or Graduate Certificate of Creative Writing, applicants must have:**

- A bachelor's degree in any discipline; OR
- Equivalent prior learning, including at least five years of relevant professional experience, or prospective students must submit a piece of published work.

## Master of Creative Writing (Fast-Track)

**To gain entry to the Master of Creative Writing (Fast-Track)\*, applicants must have:**

- A bachelor's degree or higher in English, Journalism, Communications, Writing or Creative Writing, Secondary English Teaching or similar (as assessed by ECU).<sup>^</sup>

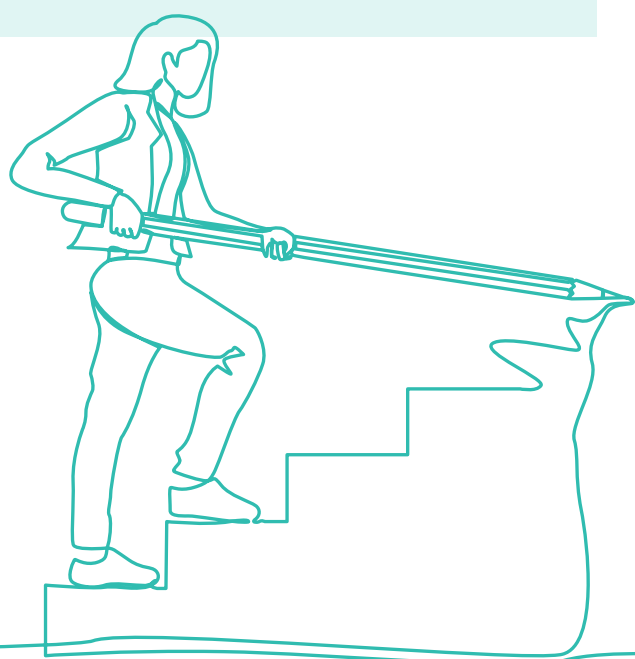
\*To gain entry to the fast-track masters, students must apply after they accept the offer for the 10-unit masters. Applications for the fast-tracked master degree are subject to ECU's assessment.

<sup>^</sup>Bachelor degree must be completed within the last 10 years.

For more information about our fast-tracked master degree, contact one of our Student Enrolment Advisors on 1300 707 760 or request a call-back.

**English language requirements (Band 4) may be satisfied through completion of one of the following:**

- IELTS Academic overall band minimum score of 6.5 (no individual band less than 6.0);
- Bachelor's degree from a country specified on the English Proficiency Bands page;
- successfully completed 0.375 EFTSL of study at postgraduate level or higher at an Australian higher education provider (or equivalent);
- where accepted, equivalent prior learning, including at least five years' relevant professional experience; or
- other tests, courses or programs defined on the English Proficiency Bands page.



# Fees and financial assistance

---

Course name	Total cost per course*
Master of Creative Writing	\$45,360
Master of Creative Writing (Fast-Track)	\$34,020
Graduate Diploma of Creative Writing	\$22,680
Graduate Certificate of Creative Writing	\$11,340

---

\*2025 student fees are shown and are subject to change.

## FEE-HELP

The government loan scheme that applies to most postgraduate courses is known as FEE-HELP. Australian citizens and holders of a Permanent Humanitarian visa who are residing within Australia are eligible to access FEE-HELP. Using this program, you can borrow enough money from the Commonwealth Government to cover your course fees. Once your income reaches a certain level, you will pay the loan back via the tax system.

**For more information on fees and the FEE-HELP loan, call us on 1300 707 760.**

## Have questions?

Book a quick 15-minute chat with a [Student Enrolment Advisor](#).

**Schedule a call**

# *Your story awaits...*



## Do you have a story to tell?

Let our Master of Creative Writing program be the canvas upon which you paint your narratives, the stage upon which your characters dance and the tapestry upon which your words are stitched.

Unleash your imagination, refine your skills and embark on a journey that will forever change the way you perceive the world — and the way the world receives your stories.

Your story awaits; it's time to let it flourish.

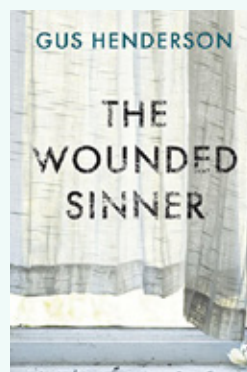
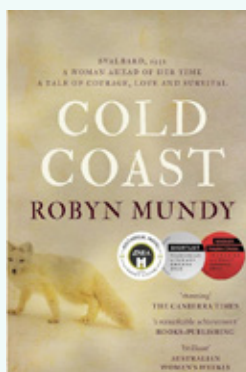
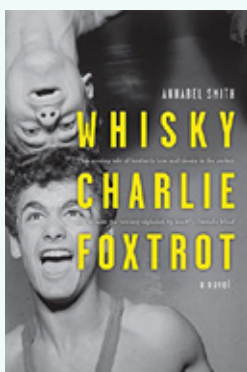
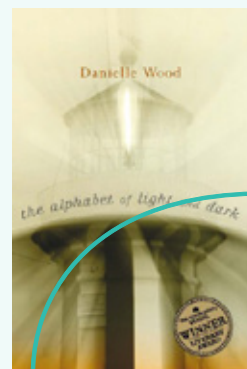
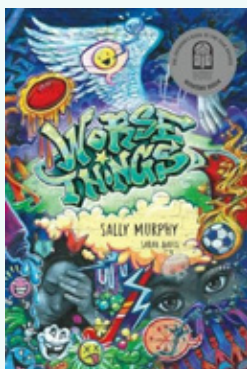
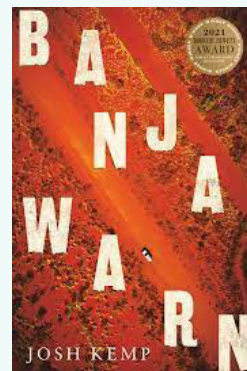
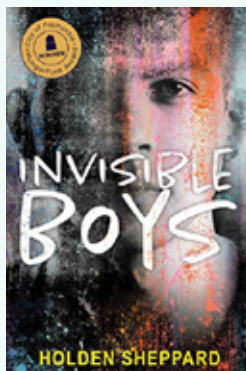
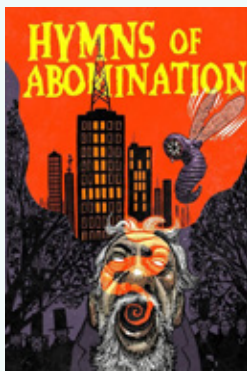
**Upon graduation from a Master of Creative Writing, you will be ready for work as a:**

- Published author
- Literary agent
- Content manager
- Senior content writer
- Editor
- English coordinator

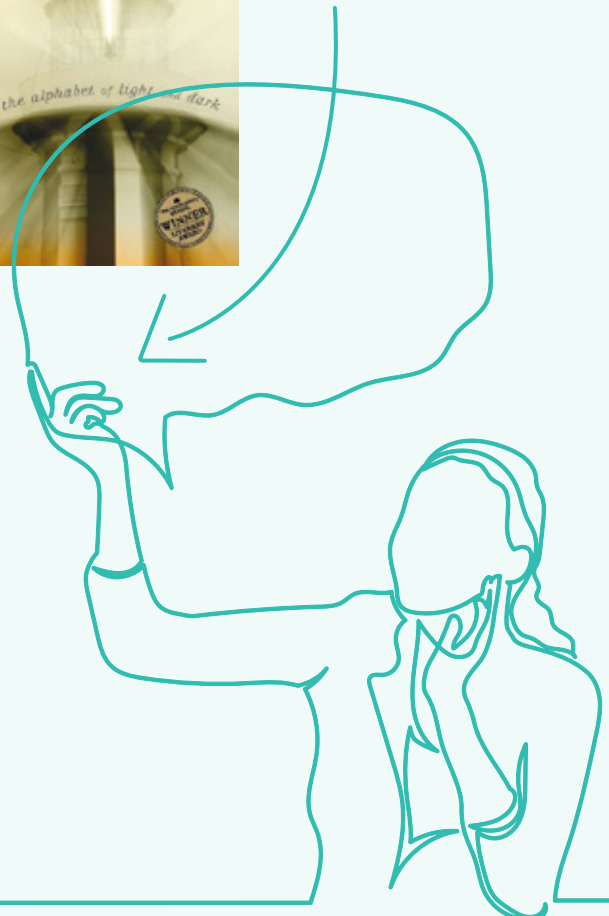


## Trailblazing voices...

The Master of Creative Writing is a new course, but ECU Online is no stranger to creative writing success stories. Read the published work of some of our most notable staff and alumni and feel inspired.



Your story  
here...



# Forging futures, igniting minds...

ECU is a young and progressive university with a strong reputation for excellence in teaching. We have been rated a maximum of five stars for teaching quality by our graduates for 15 years in a row.

## Rankings and accreditations

### 2023 Good Universities Guide

ECU was rated five stars for Postgraduate Overall Experience.

### 2022 Times Higher Education (THE) Young Universities Rankings

ECU has ranked in the world's top 100 universities under 50 years old.

### QS World University Rankings Top 150 under 50

ECU has been listed in the QS Top 150 under 50 rankings for 2020.

### 2023 Best Global Universities in Australia/New Zealand

ECU is ranked #31 in the Best Universities in Australia/New Zealand for 2022-2023.

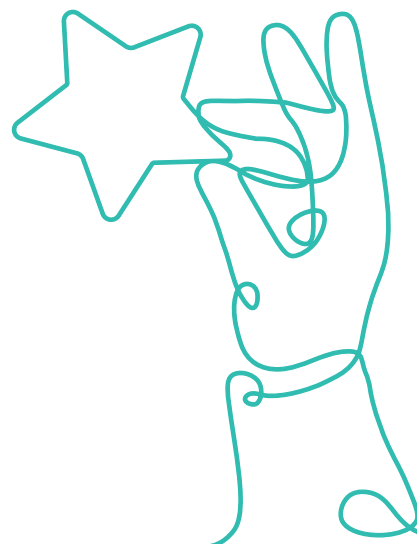


## Accelerated and online

ECU Accelerated Online enables you to fit your education around your life by studying one unit at a time in seven-week study periods.

### Our courses are:

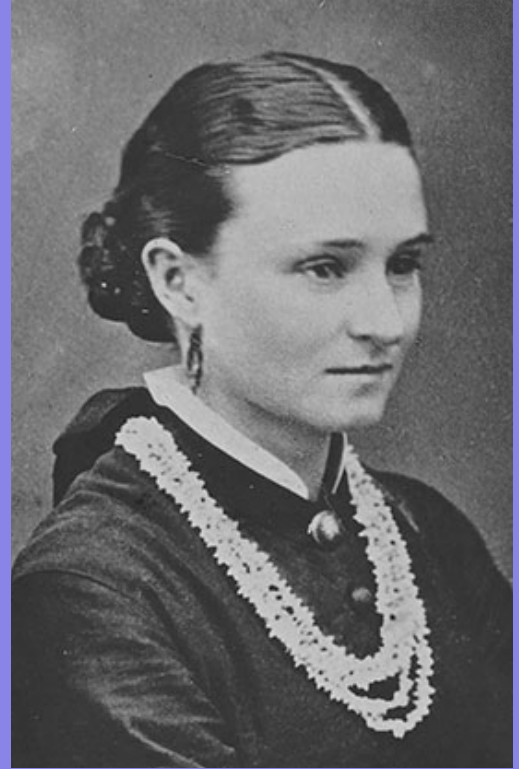
- Delivered in a flexible online format with six study periods a year, so you can complete your course sooner than traditional part-time study.
- Career relevant which allows you to apply your learnings to your current role and be empowered to take advantage of new opportunities.
- Designed to meet best practice online learning standards using the latest learning technology. The Master of Communication will give you the same quality of education and learning outcomes that you would receive if studying on-campus. Enjoy an award-winning experience at ECU, rated five stars for Postgraduate Overall Experience in the 2023 Good Universities Guide





# *Our heritage and values...*

ECU is named after Edith Dircksey Cowan, the first woman to be elected to an Australian Parliament. Her life was dedicated to the belief that education is the key to growth, change and improvement in society.



This drives our purpose to transform lives and enrich society through education and research.

## Everything we do at ECU is underpinned by our values of:

### **Integrity**

Being ethical, honest and fair.

### **Respect**

Considering the opinions and values of others.

### **Rational inquiry**

Motivated by evidence and reasoning.

### **Personal excellence**

Demonstrating the highest personal and professional standards.

### **Courage**

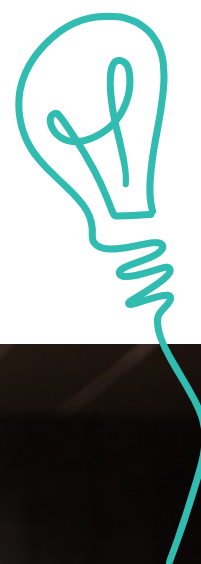
Being bold and resolute in pursuit of our goals.

# *Unleash your potential...*

Now is the time to set the wheels in motion to achieve your creative writing dreams.

## **At ECU Online, you're never alone.**

We understand that everyone has different work arrangements, family responsibilities, locations and learning styles. This is why our postgraduate courses are offered 100% online — so you can balance your studies with other commitments. As an ECU Online student, you will have access to academic support as well as non-academic support.



## **Have questions?**

Book a quick 15-minute chat with a [Student Enrolment Advisor](#).

**Schedule a call**



## Academic study support

Our accelerated online courses are developed by industry experts and engaged academics. You can easily connect with learning facilitators and course coordinators through our easy-to-use online learning environment to gain feedback and ask academic questions. You can also reach out to a Learning Advisor who can help with things like assessment writing, study skills and more.



## Non-academic study support

You will have a dedicated Student Success Advisor available to you from when you start studying through to graduation. They will be available to provide non-academic support, such as assistance with scheduling time to study and more.



## Additional support options

As an ECU online student, you also have access to all the support offered by ECU, both on-campus and online:

- Access and inclusion services
- Student health services
- Psychological counselling support
- Careers and employability services
- Student Guild, clubs and associations



## Your Student Success Advisor

Your Student Success Advisor offers non-academic support during your study. Just before you begin your course, one of our Student Success Advisors will be in touch with you via phone, chat or email. They will help you plan your study schedule and give you advice while you're studying.

# How to apply

When you are ready to begin your postgraduate study journey with ECU Accelerated Online, our Student Enrolment Advisors will be there to help you every step of the way.

**Ready to get started? This is what you need to do next.**

To apply, you will need the course name and code, as well as scanned, certified copies of your supporting documents.

## **Master of Creative Writing**

Code T96

## **Master of Creative Writing (Fast-Track)**

Code T96

## **Graduate Diploma of Creative Writing**

Code T97

## **Graduate Certificate of Creative Writing**

Code T98

1

## **Reach out to our Student Enrolment Advisors**

Contact our Student Enrolment Advisors before you begin the application process to discuss any questions you may have and ensure you have everything you need to apply. You can call our team on 1300 707 760 or email [future.student@studyonline.ecu.edu.au](mailto:future.student@studyonline.ecu.edu.au) to request a call-back.

2

## **Gather your documents**

Your Student Enrolment Advisor will advise you on what documents you need to accompany your application. Documents for a strong application often include transcripts, certificates to verify previous studies and work experience evidence.

3

## **Apply through the ECU online application system**

Visit our online application system to complete your application. The great news is that you don't have to complete the whole application in one sitting; you can save it and come back later.



## Have questions?

Book a quick 15-minute chat with a Student Enrolment Advisor.

**Schedule a call**

## Ready to apply?

Once you've spoken with a Student Enrolment Advisor, you can apply online.

**Apply online**

Information contained in this brochure was correct at the time of printing, June 2023, and may be subject to change.  
CRICOS Provider Code: 00279B.