As a Wesleyan student, you are joining a vibrant community of writers. Award-winning faculty offer courses in creative writing and journalism, while academic work across the curriculum will develop your skill as a critical writer. Students’ engagement with writing also extends beyond the classroom. Novelists, poets, essayists, journalists, playwrights, and critics visit the campus throughout the year. Writing prizes recognize exceptional student work and support independent summer writing projects, while students publish creative writing, journalism, and academic essays in more than a dozen student publications. The Shapiro Center for Creative Writing offers a library and lounge for student writers and a space for master classes, which will be led this year by novelist Colson Whitehead and poet C. D. Wright.

Writing courses are offered in fiction, poetry, nonfiction, playwriting, screenwriting, science writing, journalism, and writing for television. The English Department offers a concentration in creative writing and the Writing Certificate offers a flexible program for students in any major. Current faculty include Amy Bloom, best-selling author, Distinguished University Writer-In-Residence, and director of the Shapiro Center; Elizabeth Willis, internationally-known poet, Shapiro-Silverberg Professor of Creative Writing, and coordinator of the English Department’s writing concentration; Lisa Cohen, biographer, essayist, and associate professor of English; and Anne Greene, director of Writing Programs. Recent visiting faculty include Clifford Chase, Porochista Khakpour, Salvatore Scibona, Alex Gilvarry, Matvei Yankelevich, and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Quiara Alegría Hudes. Recent Kim-Frank Visiting Writers include neurologist and ethicist Joseph Fins ’82 and journalist Rebecca Knight ’98. Steven Greenhouse ’73, labor and workplace reporter for The New York Times, is this year’s Koeppel Journalism Fellow.

The Russell House Series and the Distinguished Writers Series bring leading writers to campus throughout the year to speak with students and offer readings, master classes, and informal discussions. Recent visitors include American, German, Russian, Israeli, and Palestinian novelists and poets, as well as journalists, film critics, and science writers. Look for visiting writers at the Russell House on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. Visit wesleyan.edu/writing/distinguished_writers.

Alumni Writers include
Daniel Handler aka Lemony Snicket
author of We Are Pirates
Sebastian Junger author of The Perfect Storm and War
Lin-Manuel Miranda Tony Award-winning composer and lyricist of In the Heights
Matthew Weiner Emmy-winning executive producer and writer for The Sopranos and Mad Men
Amy Bloom award-winning fiction writer, author of Away and Lucky Us

Recent Visitors include
Colum McCann
Elie Wiesel
Jhumpa Lahiri
Art Spiegelman
Adrienne Rich
Louis Menand
Jamaica Kincaid
Colum McCann
Elie Wiesel
Jhumpa Lahiri
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Louis Menand
Jamaica Kincaid
Colum McCann
Elie Wiesel
Jhumpa Lahiri
Art Spiegelman
Adrienne Rich
Louis Menand
Jamaica Kincaid
Get Involved in Student-Run Groups

The Wesleyan Argus
Bi-weekly campus newspaper

Historical Narratives
History journal

Pyxis
Undergraduate journal of the humanities

Wesleying
Student-run blog about campus life

Stethoscope
Student-run press

After Hours
Creative nonfiction magazine

The Ampersand
Humor publication

WeSLAM
Nationally-ranked slam poetry

48 Hour Magazine
Two-day literary event

The Jaded Basil
Online literary magazine

Ostranenie/Samizdat Press
Student-run press and arts publication

The Hangman’s Lime
Poetry publication

Hermes
Politics and cultural analysis magazine

Unlocked Magazine
Sexual health and sexuality publication

Method Magazine
Magazine and blog about campus and cultural events

Writers’ Bloc
Workshop for creative and performance-oriented writing

Writing Across Campus

- Fiction, creative nonfiction, playwriting, and poetry courses
- Koeppel journalism courses on topics such as finance, food and travel, and social justice issues
- Science-writing courses
- Writing courses in film, music, and the arts
- Radio journalism opportunities
- Student-run writing forums
- Honors thesis tutorials
- Prizes and fellowships for student writing
- Writer’s Block, student residence

Help with Academic Papers

- Writing Workshop tutors are available daily to help you compose and edit papers for any course. Tutors hold both drop-in hours and scheduled appointments. For more information, visit wesleyan.edu/writing/workshop or call 860-685-2440.
- Writing mentors will work with you for a full semester at any point in your college career. Apply for a mentor at the start of the semester by contacting writingworks@wesleyan.edu.
- The Ford Writing Tutor Program trains students to serve as writing mentors or tutors in the Writing Workshop. More than 100 top-ranking students are selected for this training each year. You may begin working in your sophomore year. For information, visit wesleyan.edu/writing.

The Annual Wesleyan Writers Conference

Now in its 59th year, Wesleyan’s is one of the nation’s leading writers conferences. The four-day program, held annually in June, welcomes both experienced writers and new writers from across the United States and abroad. The program includes seminars, manuscript consultations, and publishing advice, offered by distinguished writers, journalists, editors, and agents. Visit wesleyan.edu/writers.

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