<table>
<tr><td rowspan="3">

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION
(Taught Postgraduate)

</td><td>

Newcastle University

</td></tr>
</table>

1	**Awarding Institution**	Newcastle University
2	**Teaching Institution**	Newcastle University
3	**Final Award**	MA PGCert
4	**Programme Title**	Creative Writing
5	**UCAS/Programme Code**	MA 4021F/P PGCert 3033P
6	**Programme Accreditation**	N/A
7	**QAA Subject Benchmark(s)**	N/A
8	**FHEQ Level**	7
9	**Date written/revised**	July 2021

10   Programme Aims

(a)   To produce Masters and Post Graduate Certificate graduates who have:
- advanced their creative ability through practice, discussion and revision;
- an advanced awareness of the processes of writing both in their own work and that of others;
- knowledge of a range of contemporary writing in English;
- knowledge of the professional world of writing and publishing;
- the ability to edit and prepare work for submission and publication.

(b)   To provide a programme:
- which has nationally and internationally recognised writers teaching on the course;
- in which the practice of writing is combined with directed reading and the opportunity to study contemporary writing;
- which draws on the expertise of those engaged in the professional world of publishing and editing;
- which attracts a diverse student body, including a significant number of mature students;
- which establishes connections with the professional world of writing in the region;
- which for Masters graduates fully meets the requirements of Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ);
- which conforms to University policies and the QAA Quality Code.

11   Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas. The programme outcomes have references to the relevant benchmark statements.

Knowledge and Understanding

On completing the programme students should:

A1   Advanced knowledge of the making, editing and critical discussion of texts in various

forms and of the relationship between the writer, the text and the reader; (PG Cert and MA)

A2   advanced understanding of verbal creativity and the techniques used in the process of editing and presenting their own and other people's writing; (PG Cert and MA)

A3   advanced knowledge in the application of the techniques of creative writing and the critical understanding of the writing of others. (PG Cert and MA)

Teaching and Learning Methods

A   Knowledge and Understanding

Knowledge and understanding is acquired through participation in and preparation for workshops, consultations, seminars, talks, readings and supervision. In workshops this will involve the writing of original texts and their development through a response to the criticism and comments of others; the reading of others' work and developing knowledge through discussion and criticism of it; the reading and discussion of published and other contemporary work. In consultations, the knowledge and understanding will be developed through close scrutiny and discussion of the writer's own work. In seminars the development will primarily be through the study and critical discussion of published texts. Seminars, along with talks, readings and project work, will also lead to knowledge and understanding of the professional world of writing, public performance and publishing.

Assessment Strategy

A   Knowledge and Understanding

Assessment of knowledge and understanding is via the submission of portfolios of creative and critical work and a final Portfolio of creative work.

Intellectual Skills

On completing the programme students should:

B   Subject-specific/Intellectual skills

B1   Conceptual awareness of how texts are made and developed; (PG Cert and MA)

B2   Advanced ability to understand and judge the timing and duration of creative projects (PG Cert and MA)

B3   Professional skill in the process of editing their own work; (PG Cert and MA)

B4   Practical knowledge and professional skill in the presentation of their own writing for performance and/or publication. (PG Cert and MA)

Teaching and Learning Methods

B   Subject-specific Intellectual Skills

Subject-specific professional skills are also acquired through workshop preparation and participation, consultations, seminars, talks and reading. Skills relating to shorter and more various projects will be acquired and developed through these means. The supervised Portfolio will develop skills in working on a larger, more sustained project. Professional skills will also be developed through the preparation of individual readings or performances and work for publication.

Assessment Strategy

B   Subject-specific intellectual skills

Assessment of subject-specific skills is through preparing and submitting to deadline portfolios of creative and critical   work produced throughout the module(s); and a Portfolio of work (a short collection of poems or equivalent in prose or dramatic form).

Practical Skills

On completing the programme students should:

C   Practical skills - able to:

C1   exercise and develop a sensitivity to verbal creativity; (PG Cert and MA)
C2   practice critical skills in the drafting and revision of writing; (PG Cert and MA)
C3   engage imaginatively and critically in the reading and discussion of texts
     (PG Cert and MA)
C4   critically examine the conditions within which contemporary writing is published and
     distributed (PG Cert and MA)

Teaching and Learning Methods

C   Practical skills

Practical skills are acquired via workshops, tutorials, seminars, talks, readings and supervision. Throughout, but most specifically within the module on 'The Profession of Writing', the contributions of professional editors and writers in various forms will develop the student's skills in critically examining the conditions within which contemporary writing is published and distributed.

Assessment Strategy

C   Practical skills

Assessment of practical skills is via the submission of creative and critical work and a final Portfolio.

Transferable/Key Skills

On completing the programme students should be able to:

D   Key (transferable) skills

D1 understand and put into effect the appropriate presentation of a specific text
   (PG Cert & MA)
D2 analyse and evaluate complex evidence critically and imaginatively; (PG Cert & MA)
D3 work and plan independently on large and small projects involving skill and originality
D4 write and speak to different audiences; (PG Cert & MA)
D5 adapt swiftly to changing circumstances within a performance situation; (PG Cert & MA)
D6 use information technology (word processing; the internet); (PG Cert & MA)
D7 gather, evaluate, organise and summarise information; (PG Cert & MA)
D8 work to deadlines or within specified time-limits; (PG Cert & MA)
D9 work effectively in a team and independently. (PG Cert & MA)

Teaching and Learning Methods

D   Key (transferable) skills

Key skills are promoted through workshops, tutorials, seminars and supervisions. Throughout, editing, selecting and presenting material both in written form and orally, to a group and receiving critical feedback will develop these skills both working individually and in a group.

Assessment Strategy

D   Key (transferable) skills

Assessment of key skills is implicit in course work at all levels.

12	Programme Curriculum, Structure and Features

Basic structure of the programme

The Masters programme is studied over one year full-time or two years part-time. It is divided into study units or modules, which have a value of from 20 to 60 credits. Each 20 credit module represents 200 hours of student learning. At least a 'Pass' in the course work is required for progression to the Portfolio stage.

The Postgraduate Certificate programme is studied over one year. It is divided into study units or modules, which have a value of 20 credits. Each 20 credit module represents 200 hours of student learning. At least a 'Pass' in the course work is required for progression to the Portfolio stage.

Full time Masters students take all modules in one year. Individual consultations support this work with one-to-one discussion of the student's writing. All Masters students take a module which introduces them to the professional world of writing through seminars on publishers and publishing, on literary magazines, anthologies, on preparing for publication, on readings and performance. This part of the course includes contributions from people from the professional world of publishing and is examined by a module specific piece of work prepared by the students. All Masters students take a module which introduces the student to close reading to understand particular creative strategies and techniques of writing across a wide range of contemporary genres and forms. All Masters students take two optional modules to widen and develop their craft. Each Masters student finally prepares under supervision, a Portfolio of their own creative work for submission.

Key features of the programme (including what makes the programme distinctive)

Because of the selective nature of the modules, this programme offers a distinctive option for the student to study creative writing across a wide range of disciplines (poetry, prose and script and creative non-fiction) in order to broaden his or her scope; or to concentrate on a chosen discipline to deepen his or her experience.

Programme regulations (link to on-line version)

4021 Programme Regulations 24-25

13	Support for Student Learning

Generic information regarding University provision is available here.

14	Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

Generic information regarding University provision is available here.

Accreditation reports
N/A

Additional mechanisms
N/A

15	Regulation of assessment
Generic information regarding University provision is available here.	

In addition, information relating to the programme is provided in:

The University Prospectus: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/

Degree Programme and University Regulations: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/docs/

Please note. This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if she/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided.