



## Guidelines for a Research Proposal in Creative Writing

The PhD in Creative Writing requires candidates to submit a thesis comprised of two separate but related and equally-weighted pieces of writing: a creative work and an academic dissertation (of about 30,000 words). Applicants for these degrees should provide the School with a research proposal of at least 1,000 words. The following aspects of your proposed thesis should be addressed:

- An account of what you hope to achieve with your creative work: how it might extend or renovate existing genres, how it might relate to a literary or critical tradition, how it might engage at the level of form and language with theoretical concepts, social and political issues, public discourse, etc.
- An account of the academic dissertation. What is the field of scholarship you will be studying? What research questions will you be asking in this field? What methodological approach will you be employing? What argument will you be developing. What original contribution do you hope to make to this field?
- An indication of how the two components will be related: how the critical essay might demonstrate an awareness of the literary/critical/social context within which you are writing; how the two components might inform each other in a dialogic fashion, or together contribute to knowledge in a particular way, etc.
- A preliminary bibliography.

For further information contact the School Postgraduate Coordinator:

[empapg@unsw.edu.au](mailto:empapg@unsw.edu.au)