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voice



**Rohan Swamy**  
Research Master's in  
Creative Writing at Trinity  
College, Dublin

## Beyond traditional courses in creativity

**Rohan Swamy, who changed his career path from engineering to journalism to creative writing, says studying abroad offers a clarity of vision**

**Rohan currently resides in Dublin and is working on his personal portfolio of short stories**

To follow the passion of writing, Rohan Swamy landed in Ireland to pursue Research Master's in Creative Writing at Trinity College Dublin.

"After research, I realised that the school had a heritage, and the course was taught at Oscar Wilde's birth house itself. I have always had an affinity for Samuel Beckett, Bram Stoker and Oscar Wilde, all of whom studied at Trinity College of Dublin, so it was natural for me to opt for it," said Rohan.

It was at a leading English newspaper, where he started his career as senior features correspondent that he began to write mundane news reports by giving backgrounds of the ambience, the description of the people and the stories became descriptive with greater details. Rohan has been a published writer in India with two short story anthologies, Urban Shots: Crossroads; Urban Shots: The Love Collection.

Speaking about the difference between a master's degree and a Research Master's degree in

Creative Writing, Rohan said, "During the course of the study, I did not take any exams. I had to discuss stories, write papers, critically analyse the work of my fellow mates, which gave me the freedom to create my own pieces of work."

"Also, there was no provision of submitting a master's thesis, rather I had to submit a portfolio, which was a complete set of stories and will act as concrete piece of literary work experience. The course allowed me to have a hands-on experience of personal research than traditional bookish

knowledge," added Rohan.

It's a misconception that there are plenty of jobs in the IT and finance industry, while the truth is that there is no dearth of creative jobs for the deserving. After the completion of his degree in Europe, he worked as chief examination invigilator at Trinity College Dublin and then as an executive officer with the fees and payments team at the same institute.

– As told to **Sheetal Banchariya**

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