Major in English

English majors develop an understanding of diverse cultures, literary traditions, and great works of English, American, and world literature. Students expand their ability to analyze a variety of texts and view them through the lenses of diverse critical perspectives. Majors develop the ability to write for both specialized and general audiences. There are five concentrations from which students can choose:

- Creative Writing
- English Education
- Language
- Literature
- Writing

Learning Outcomes

Students will demonstrate:

- Competency in critical reading and interpretive techniques, including:
  - formulating, developing, and supporting interpretive positions with appropriate evidence;
  - using technical and conceptual vocabulary knowledgeably;
  - using appropriate methodologies, critical approaches, and theoretical perspectives; and
  - being original and creative.
- Effective written expression in a variety of genres for a range of audiences on literary and non-literary topics.
- Familiarity with the main writers, texts, genres, and movements in the literary history of the United States and British Isles; and/or the history and development of the English language; and/or literacy issues in their historical contexts.

Potential Occupations

A major in English prepares students for business, government, or education careers that require broadly educated people who can think critically, communicate effectively, analyze texts, and write well. Many employers appreciate liberal arts majors for their multiple skills and their ability to adapt to a variety of tasks and work environments.

The department encourages experiential education by offering a variety of internship opportunities.

Students are also invited to generate their own positions in fields of interests, as well as pursue established local, regional, or national internships. Graduates who go on for advanced studies can attain more responsible positions with the possibility of rising to top professional levels.

Depending on a student's interests, the electives taken, or the concentration selected, available career choices include, but are not limited to: copy editor; project editor; manuscript reader or story analyst; sales representative; publicity and promotion specialist; advertising coordinator; production specialist; assistant book publicist; contracts and permission specialist; agency or arts administrator; human resource manager; human services program developer; public relations; English teacher; teacher of English as a second language; curriculum developer; education administrator; grant writer; technical writer for business, industry, or science; magazine, newspaper, television, education, or government writer; biographer or writer of prose, fiction, or nonfiction; lyricist.

Concentrations

- Creative Writing Concentration
- English Education Concentration
- Language Concentration
- Literature Concentration
- Writing Concentration