

With a Degree in English, Your Opportunities are Limitless



The English program at Montana State University offers students a rich and challenging curriculum taught by award-winning faculty who take a personal interest in student success. As an English major, you will have the opportunity to study the British and American traditions, as well as contemporary poetry, creative writing, women and literature, mythology, world literature, literary criticism, and a host of other thought-provoking topics.

Whether you are studying Shakespeare, Wole Soyinka, or Toni Morrison, reading medieval mystery plays or critiquing graphic novels, you will learn to become a perceptive reader, a thoughtful writer, and a resourceful researcher. Being an English major will provide you with impressive analytical and communication skills, which are essential to a wide array of career paths.

Undergraduate Programs of Study:

English Major Options

- English Teaching
- Literature

English Minor Options

- Writing (non-teaching)
- Literature (non-teaching)

Graduate Programs of Study:

- Master of Arts in English

Faculty:

For a list of current faculty please see: www1.english.montana.edu/index.php?s=faculty

The curriculum leading to the Bachelor of Arts in English provides students with two options:

Literature

The literature option is for students who wish to specialize in the study of literature, especially those preparing for a broad range of careers including graduate study in English or related fields.

English Teaching

The English teaching option is for students wishing to specialize in the study of literature, language and composition as preparation for certification for secondary school teaching. In the teaching option, students take a set of professional education courses, including student teaching.

Left photo, students assist in assembling one of the 1,000 boxes that contain Corona, the newly published journal of arts and ideas that is based at MSU. Photo by Kelly Gorham, MSU News.

Right photo, Professor Susan Kollin spent 10 months as a Fulbright Lecturer at the American University in Cairo, Egypt. Photo courtesy of Susan Kollin.



For additional information, contact:

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What can I do with a degree in English?

- Advertising Copywriter
- Attorney
- Author, Fiction or Non-Fiction
- Circulation Assistant
- College Professor
- Columnist
- Commentator
- Comedy Writer
- Communications Manager
- Congressional Aide
- Copywriter
- Creative Writer
- Critic, Art or Book
- Curator
- Desktop Publisher
- Director
- Documentation Specialist
- Editor
- Editorial Assistant
- Education & Training
- ESL Teacher
- Foreign Correspondent
- Freelance Writer or Consultant
- Interpreter or Translator
- Journalist
- Librarian
- Literary Agent
- Magazine Writer
- Manuscript Reader
- Marketing Specialist
- Narrator
- Novelist
- Playwright
- Poet
- Proofreader
- Public Relations Specialist
- Public Speaker
- Publicity Assistant
- Publisher
- Radio or TV Commentator
- Radio or TV Newscaster
- Reporter
- Scientific Writer
- Script Reader
- Speech Writer
- Sports Writer
- Teacher (all levels)
- Technical Writer
- Video Scriptwriter/Producer
- Writer

Careers with a Degree in English

English graduates can pursue an abundance of professional opportunities including corporate management, consulting, finance, journalism, public relations, publishing, teaching, politics, film, and new media. The sidebar to the left includes a few examples of job titles held by people with English degrees. As an English major, you will develop skills that employers find extremely valuable.

These include the ability to:

- Read critically
- Write persuasively
- Problem solve efficiently
- Research productively
- Analyze and evaluate complex information adeptly

For those interested in pursuing advanced degrees, holding a degree in English provides you with numerous options. Some students pursue graduate work in English leading to a Ph.D. and the opportunity to teach at a college or university. Others use their English degrees as preparation for business, law, or other professional schools. Remember, with a degree in English, your opportunities are limitless. Whatever career options you pursue, your English major will be an excellent preparation.

Writing Center

Since 1983, the Writing Center has been a free service for MSU students working on university writing assignments. If you find you need help with research strategies, organizing or developing ideas, building arguments, or polishing your prose, experienced student and professional tutors at the Writing Center can give you the support you need to make every writing assignment a success.

Adjunct instructor Jill Davis, and students from Writing 221 (Intermediate Technical Writing), participate in a service learning project to restore Danforth Park on the MSU campus. Photo courtesy of Alexey Kalinin.



Faculty from the English Department coordinated the academic component of the Middle East Partnership Initiative program for four years. Photo courtesy of Gretchen Minton.

Pop Quiz: Which of the following were English majors?

- Sting (musician)
- Dave Barry (journalist)
- Sally Ride (astronaut)
- Matt Damon (actor)
- Marty Shottenheimer (NFL coach)
- Julia Stiles (actor)
- Garrison Keillor (radio personality)
- Amy Tan (writer)

Answer: If you said all of them, you're right!