What you can do with your ENGLISH MAJOR

English Major Skills

Writing for Various Purposes & Audiences
You learn to write skillfully with attention to different audiences, contexts, purposes, and conventions.

Creative Thinking
You learn to generate original ideas, synthesize information, experiment, take risks, solve problems, and use a wide variety of media.

Critical Reading & Thinking
You understand divergent perspectives, identifying and questioning assumptions, and recognizing the implications of texts.

Emotional Intelligence
You learn to examine issues from multiple perspectives with a sensitivity to complex issues affecting diverse populations.

Research
You’re adept at filtering information to establish legitimate sources, using evidence and translating complex information clearly and concisely.

Public Speaking & Oral Communications
You learn to present and respond to ideas with attention to different audiences, contexts, perspectives and purposes.

Cultural Competency
You build knowledge of art and literature, plus social and political discourses that influence popular culture, institutions, and human motivation.

Attention to Detail
You have a keen sensitivity to nuance, style, and consistency in communication. You revise according to organizational and audience needs.

Supplement Your Skills With:

- Leadership Experience
- Global Competency
- Internships & Part-Time Positions
- Digital Technology Skills
- Collaboration Experience
- Career & Self Development

Chart Your Path Forward

Activate Your Handshake Account for connections to jobs, internships, employer & alumni networking.

Explore Career Communities to discover a wide variety of fields where you can turn your English major into success.

Get Career & Internship Advising from SuccessWorks to make a plan, whether you’re a first-year student or about to graduate.

Get Started: successworks.wisc.edu
“Using the persuasive language skills I honed as an English major, I have been able to advance projects, secure more funding for initiatives and better communicate with leadership teams.”

Coral Graszer, 2011
Head of Public Affairs, Epic
Madison, WI

“An English major is about combining your ability to write with your ability to think. That skill is insanely important in the real world. Sprinkle in a little public speaking experience and you will be an unstoppable force!”

Alex Frecon, 2009
Writer + Director
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN

Put your English major to WORK

Common Alumni Job Titles
- Account Executive
- Attorney
- Business Owner
- Communications Director/Manager
- Consultant
- Editor
- Executive Director
- Marketing Manager
- Partner/President (Finance)
- Project Manager
- Professor
- Project/Product Manager
- School Principal
- Teacher
- Technical Writer
- Writer

Common Employers of English Alumni
- American Family Insurance
- Apple
- Bronx Defenders Family Defense Practice
- Chazen Museum of Art
- Deloitte
- Epic
- Exact Sciences
- Goodheart-Wilcox Publishing
- Google
- Madison Metropolitan School District
- Medical College of Wisconsin
- Microsoft
- Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design
- New Media Rights
- The New York Times
- Northwestern Mutual
- Penguin Random House
- Sierra Club
- USA Today
- UW Health

Recent Grads’ Career Plans
- 65% Employment
- 32% Continuing Education or Grad School
- 2% Volunteer or Service Programs
- 1% Other

Industries of Employment
1. Education
2. Information Technology
3. Healthcare
4. Finance
5. Media
6. Government
7. Non-Profit
8. Arts & Entertainment
9. Marketing

Where Alumni Live & Work
- 32% Wisconsin
- 12% Illinois
- 9% Minnesota
- 8% California
- 8% New York
- 31% Other

Education
Information Technology
Healthcare
Finance
Media
Government
Non-Profit
Arts & Entertainment
Marketing

Career Communities for English Majors
Success Works has eight Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where English Majors can start.

Not inspired by these options? Visit Success Works to explore more widely.

successworks.wisc.edu