

As a diverse department that houses faculty experts in Literature, Language Studies, and Creative Nonfiction, we invite you to immerse yourself in a variety of texts. You will have the opportunity to attain a nuanced understanding of Shakespeare's dramas and the rapier wit of Jonathan Swift; craft personal experiences, ideas, and interdisciplinary research into compelling, persuasive prose that appeals to a diverse audience; or explore the structure and cultural function of language itself through the discipline of Rhetoric or Linguistics. No matter where your interests take you on your journey through the English major, you can anticipate learning the art of composing persuasive prose and enhancing your powers of advanced critical thought in a challenging yet nurturing intellectual environment.

You'll have a wide and exciting selection of careers as an English major. English majors are trained to write well, to organize ideas in a logical way, and to develop arguments. You can analyze complex information, research, and critically read. With these skills, you can work for book publishers, hospitals, television networks, advertising firms, and the government. Employers, graduate schools, and professional schools often seek out well-rounded English majors because they are versatile, able to use their training as writers, thinkers, editors, and teachers in fields such as medicine, law, business, media, and public service.

When you graduate with your BA in English, you will be prepared to advance in the countless professions that value critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and creative collaboration, as well as clear and compelling communication skills. There is ample evidence that this approach, which combines Liberal Arts intellectual values and professional pragmatism, leads to more professional opportunities and to greater, long-term job satisfaction. This runs contrary to what some voices would have us believe, that a Liberal Arts education, including English Studies, has no place in our global, technological economy. Our students and alumni know different.

## Course Highlights in English:

- Viewing Bollywood
- King Arthur through the Ages
- Linguistics
- Latino Testimonio
- Travel Writing
- Creative Spirit
- Harlem Renaissance
- Frankenstein: Then and Now
- Utopia/Dystopia
- Gender Identity and Writing
- Frontier Narratives

## Knowledge & skills gained as a English major:

### Knowledge:

- Knowledge of major texts, genres, and critical traditions
- Understand and empathize with other cultures and people through exploring their texts
- Knowledge of linguistic, literary, and cultural contexts within which texts are written and read
- Knowledge in a variety of research methods

### Skills:

- Written and oral communication skills—ability to define audience, construct an argument, present an idea, and provide background information on a variety of issues
- Writing and speaking with clarity and precision, and learn the best methods to persuade an audience
- Detailed, balanced, and rigorous examination of texts or spoken language and the ability to articulate interpretations to others
- Sensitivity to how communication is shaped and shaped by circumstances, authorship, and intended audience
- Sensitivity to the power of language and its role in creating meaning
- The broad vocabulary and ability to use critical terminology appropriately
- The ability to accurately and appropriately present research
- Awareness of how different social and cultural contexts affect the nature of language and meaning



## Career Opportunities:

By nature, English majors make great employees in any field because of their ability to communicate effectively, think critically and solve complex problems. These timeless skills make them attractive to employers. English majors often pursue careers in the following industries:

- Journalist
- Editor
- Grant Specialist
- Technical Writer
- Speech Writer
- Publications Manager
- Research Analyst
- Copy Editor
- Personnel Manager
- Information Officer
- Press Secretary
- Copywriter
- Web Content Writer

When the English major is matched with complementary minors and thoughtful internships, new possibilities arise. A few examples are:

- **English** + Pre-medicine = Doctor
- **English** + Business/Economics/Marketing = Industry jobs of all types
- **English** + Computer Science = Technical writer, publishing, new media
- **English** + Social Work = Social worker, law enforcement, case manager
- **English** + Art/Art History = Museum director, curator
- **English** + Theatre = Stage manager, dramaturge

## Student Opportunities:

- Sigma Tau Delta—the international honor society for English study
- Student scholarships available for: Best Writer, Excellence in the Major, and Distinction in the Major
- Quality student internships in local industry, publishing, law and others
- Research opportunities

### Concentrations available in English:

American Literature

British/Irish/Anglophone Literature

Creative Nonfiction

Language Studies

## English major at a glance:

Number of majors: 150  
Degrees offered: B.A.  
Credit hours needed: 37–39  
Minors offered: Yes (18 credits)

## For more information:

For program information, contacts and course requirements visit:

[www.unomaha.edu/english/](http://www.unomaha.edu/english/)

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