

Key Features of an English Major

- Learn the historical and social contexts of literature written in or translated into English.
- Develop important analytical and communication skills through the critical study of language, literature, and culture.
- Learn how debates about literature and culture shape our intellectual lives and our national and global conversations.
- Learn how to write persuasively and to conduct research in English studies effectively.
- Build your resume with internship credit.
- Expand your worldview with opportunities to study abroad for major credit.
- Graduate with a wide range of potential career directions.

Career Options and Salaries with an English Major

Those with a background in English have a variety of options when it comes to choosing their fields of work, including law, public relations, advertising, publishing, writing, and teaching.

Some popular careers for English majors include:

<i>Advertising</i>	\$48,490
<i>Author/Blogger/Writer</i>	\$60,250
<i>Editor</i>	\$56,010
<i>Technical writers</i>	\$70,240
<i>Public Relations</i>	\$56,770
<i>Teaching (Middle-High School)</i>	\$55,860 - \$57,200
<i>Librarians</i>	\$56,880
<i>Lawyers</i>	\$115,820

*All figures are *median* salaries, current as of 2015. *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2016-2017 ed.*
(<http://stats.bls.gov/ooh/>)

Additional information on salaries and careers can be found through the University Career Center & The President's Promise: [English](#)

Advising

If you are considering a major in English, you can easily meet with an advisor in the Department of English to answer any questions you may have.

- The Undergraduate Studies Office of the English Department offers both educational and pre-professional advising for English majors. Advisors are happy to help students select appropriate courses, prepare for internships, and groom themselves for the world outside of the University of Maryland.
- To make an appointment with an English advisor, call 301-405-3825 or visit 1128 Tawes Hall.

Declaring an English Major

English is not a Limited Enrollment Program (LEP). If you have decided to major in this field, you can declare immediately!

When you declare your major in English, you are also declaring that you will be a student in the College of Arts and Humanities (ARHU) which houses the English Department. There are two levels in your process of declaring and later advising: the Department (English) and the College (Arts and Humanities). The College will advise you regarding your CORE/Gen Ed requirements, and the Department will advise you regarding your major requirements.

The English Department advising website is:

<http://www.english.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/major/declare>

The College of Arts and Humanities (ARHU) advising website is:

<http://www.arhu.umd.edu/undergraduate/advising/advinfo>

There are then three steps to change your major to English:

1. Meet with an English advisor: to make an appointment, please call 301-405-3825. Your English advisor will go over the English major requirements with you, review any courses you've already taken, do an academic plan for the next few semesters, and provide you with the paperwork to change your major.
2. Students must complete the ARHU [Foreign Language Placement Test](#) (FLPT must be taken in a proctored environment if students are seeking exemption from [The Global Engagement Requirement](#)). Please note that students' majors will not be changed until they have an FLPT score on file or have satisfied prerequisites via AP credit or earned college credit.
3. Meet with an ARHU advisor: to make an appointment (this must be *after* you've met with an English advisor), please call 301-405-2108. Your ARHU advisor will review your CORE/Gen Ed, College, and University requirements; do an academic plan for the next few semesters; and officially change your major to English.

Sample four year plans for English majors are available online at:

- <http://www.arhu.umd.edu/sites/default/files/arhu/undergraduate/pdf/4YP-ENGL-GENED.pdf> (Gen-Ed)
- <http://www.arhu.umd.edu/sites/default/files/arhu/undergraduate/pdf/AP-ENGL-CORE.pdf> (CORE)

Specific requirements for the major can be found at:

<http://www.english.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/major/requirements>.

English majors are strongly encouraged to participate in study abroad and internship opportunities. You can speak with an English advisor about ways to incorporate these into your four year plan.

Four Year Plan (Gen Ed)

First Year:

ENGL 101 (AW)	3	Natural Sciences (NS)**	3
Math (MA)	3	Analytic Reasoning (AR)	3
History/Social Sciences (HS)**	3	Humanities (HU)**	3
ARHU158	3	ENGL 2xx course	
Elective 1xx-4xx	3	<i>(Literary, Linguistic, or Rhetorical Analysis)</i>	3
	15 credits	Elective 1xx-4xx	3
			15 credits

Second Year:

Elective 1xx-4xx	3	Oral Communication (OC)	3
Humanities (HU)**	3	Scholarship in Practice (SP) #1**	3
Natural Science Lab (NL)**	4	ENGL 301	3
ENGL 2xx <i>(Literary and Cultural History)</i>	3	Elective 1xx-4xx	3
Global Engagement #1	3	Global Engagement #2	3
	16 credits		15 credits

Third Year:

Elective 1xx-4xx	3	History/Social Sciences (HS)**	3
ENGL 3xx-4xx	3	ENGL 3xx-4xx	3
<i>(Literature of African-Americans, peoples of color, women, or LGBT people)</i>		<i>(Modern British, Anglophone, and/or Postcolonial Writing, post-1800)</i>	
ENGL 3xx-4xx <i>(Literature pre-1800 #1)</i>	3	ENGL 3xx-4xx <i>(Literature pre-1800 #2)</i>	3
ENGL 3xx-4xx <i>(Emphasis/Elective)</i>	3	Elective 3xx-4xx	3
Elective 1xx-4xx	3	Elective 3xx-4xx	3
	15 credits		15 credits

Fourth Year:

Professional Writing (PW)	3	ENGL 3xx-4xx <i>(Emphasis/Elective)</i>	3
Scholarship in Practice (SP) #2**	3	ENGL 3xx-4xx <i>(Emphasis/Elective)</i>	3
ENGL 3xx-4xx	3	Elective 3xx-4xx	3
<i>(Literature in American, African American, and/or U.S. Ethnic Writing)</i>		Elective 3xx-4xx	3
ENGL 388 Internship		Elective 1xx-4xx	3
or ENGL 3xx-4xx <i>(Emphasis/Elective)</i>	3		15 credits
Elective 1xx-4xx	3		
	15 credits		

TOTAL = 121 credits

Note: Some courses for the major may also count toward the General Education requirements.

**All students must complete two Distributive Studies courses that are approved for I-series courses. The Understanding Plural Societies and Cultural Competence courses may also fulfill Distributive Studies categories.

Four Year Plan (CORE)

First Year:

Fundamental Math	3	Lab Science (LL/PL)	4
ENGL 101	3	HO	3
Language Requirement (#1)	3	HA	3
SH or SB	3	Language Requirement (#2)	3
UNIV 100 or 101	1	ENGL 2xx-3xx (HL)	3
	13 credits		16 credits

Second Year:

MATH 111 or STAT 100	3	Non-Lab Science	3
SB	3	SH	3
Language Requirement (#3)	3	CORE Diversity	3
ENGL 2xx-3xx*	3	ENGL 2xx-3xx*	3
ENGL 301	3	ENGL 3xx-4xx*	3
	15 credits		15 credits

Third Year:

Advanced Studies #1	3	Advanced Studies #2	3
Professional Writing CORE	3	Elective (1xx-4xx)	3
Elective (1xx-4xx)	3	Elective (1xx-4xx)	3
ENGL 3xx-4xx*	3	ENGL 3xx-4xx*	3
ENGL 3xx-4xx*	3	ENGL 3xx-4xx*	3
	15 credits		15 credits

Fourth Year:

Elective (3xx-4xx)	3	Elective (3xx-4xx)	3
Elective (1xx-4xx)	3	Elective (3xx-4xx)	3
Elective (1xx-4xx)	3	Elective (1xx-4xx)	3
ENGL 3xx-4xx*	3	Elective (1xx-4xx)	3
ENGL 3xx-4xx* or ENGL388**	3	ENGL (3xx-4xx*)	3
	15 credits		15 credits

TOTAL = 119 credits

*Please see Department of English website for specific major requirements.

**Internship

Q & A

Is there a way to “tailor” my English major to the subjects or areas I’m interested in?

Yes. In fact, the English Department *encourages* students to choose an area of emphasis for their coursework. The English major offers several emphases to choose from. In consultation with your advisor, you may choose an emphasis for your Group I courses, another for your Group II courses, and even a third for your electives.

For the list of concentration areas, see

<http://www.english.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/major/emphases>.

Is there an Honors Program within English?

Yes, there is. For more information, please explore the following webpage:

<http://www.english.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/honors>.

Do you offer any minors?

The English Department offers two minors, which can be pursued by students of any major:

- 1) **Creative Writing** - The minor in Creative Writing offers students the opportunity to engage deeply with their own writing and that of their peers in a graduated series of workshops led by professional writers of poetry and prose. Fifteen semester hours of coursework are required. Participants in the program take four workshops sequentially during their undergraduate careers, plus one upper-level English literature course of their choice. Eligibility for the Creative Writing minor requires either successful completion of ENGL 271, or 272, or 273 with a grade of A- or better, or submission of an acceptable portfolio of work to the Creative Writing faculty. For more information, please visit <http://www.english.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/minor-crwr>.
- 2) **Rhetoric**- Rhetoric is the theory of persuasive communication, both written and spoken. The minor in rhetoric has been designed for students who want to know the principles and skills of practical persuasion in its varied contexts. The program will be of value for all students wishing to improve their writing and speaking skills and especially useful for those students who plan careers in business, management, law, government, and education. The minor in rhetoric is an interdisciplinary program offered through the cooperation of the Department of English and the Department of Communication. Fifteen semester hours of coursework are required. For further details, please visit <http://rhetoric.umd.edu>.