

What Can You Do With an English Major?

AREAS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES
<u>WRITING/EDITING</u> Creative Writing Novels: Fiction and Nonfiction Poetry Plays Screenplays Scripts Greeting Cards Lyrics/Jingle Writing Graphic Novels Journalism Writing/Reporting Editing Critique Freelance Writing	Newspapers Magazines Broadcast media companies including television, radio, and movie Trade, professional, or consumer publications Internet sites Large corporations Government agencies Department of Homeland Security Department of Defense Department of State Veterans Affairs National Archives and Records Administration Universities and university presses Technical industries Self-employed/Freelance	Select elective coursework in a particular area of interest. Write/edit for campus publications such as college newspapers, magazines, or departmental or program newsletters. Volunteer to assist or tutor students in a writing center. Become familiar with the proposal writing and submission process involved in freelance writing. Gain as much experience as possible through volunteer positions, internships, or part-time jobs. Demonstrate patience and persistence in starting a career in creative writing.
<u>TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION</u> Technical Writing and Editing Science and Medical Writing Grant and Proposal Writing Software and Hardware Documentation Information Technology Writing Human-Computer Interface Design Corporate Communications and Training Mechanical Communication	Management, scientific, and technical consulting companies Technical industries Retailers including electronics Engineering firms Healthcare industry Computer systems design companies Software publishers Self-employed/Freelance	Earn a bachelor's degree with a focus in English, communication, or journalism. Complete coursework in technical communication. Minor or take classes in science and/or computer science to learn about technical areas. Gain experience in a specialized field such as engineering, medicine, science, web design, or computer software. Develop strong grammar and language skills; consider a second-language. Obtain volunteer or internship experience as a research assistant in a technical information department. Pursue a technical writing or editing internship.

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<u>PUBLISHING</u> Editing Advertising Sales Circulation Production Publicity Marketing Promotion Administration	Trade publishing Special interest magazines Trade magazines Association magazines Sunday newspaper supplements Educational publishing Religious books and magazines Professional and scholarly publishing University presses Independent publishers Alternative media publishers E-books Audiobooks	Obtain an internship in the publishing industry. Participate in a summer publishing institute. Develop proofreading, editing, and copy-editing skills; maintain current knowledge of digital production technology. Gain experience by writing for student publications such as the newspaper, creative writing magazines, the yearbook, etc. Conduct an informational interview with or shadow a professional in the publishing industry. Look for positions with local dailies and alternative weeklies in the community. Volunteer to write or edit publications with local nonprofit organizations to gain experience. Be prepared to relocate to cities with a publishing presence. A large majority of opportunities exist in New York City. Research the publishing industry to learn more about career ladders.
<u>EDUCATION</u> Teaching Administration Higher Education Administration Admissions Financial Aid Academic Advising and Support Services Development Alumni Affairs International Education and Study Abroad Student Affairs (e.g., Residence Life, Student Activities, Orientation, Leadership, Greek Life, Multicultural Programs) Information/Library Science Non-classroom Teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) Research Tutoring	Public and private K-12 schools Colleges and universities Language institutes, local and abroad Libraries Museums Private learning centers Test preparation organizations Nonprofit organizations involved with literacy	Obtain appropriate state certification for public school teaching. Gain certifications to teach multiple subjects or age groups for increased job opportunities. Earn a master's or doctorate degree for post-secondary teaching. Maintain a high grade point average and secure strong faculty recommendations for graduate school. Plan to attend graduate school in college student personnel or information science for those fields. Seek volunteer experiences working with children through Big Brother/Sister programs, tutoring, summer camps, YMCAs, etc. Participate in activities such as debate or literary clubs, campus publications, or student government. Pursue leadership roles such as resident assistant, peer mentor, student advisor, etc.

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AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

ADVERTISING

Creative Services
Copy Writing
Art Direction
Web Page Design
Account Management
Media
Account Planning
Production

Advertising agencies
In-house agencies of large companies

Demonstrate talent, persistence, assertiveness, and enthusiasm.
Obtain experience with campus media such as the newspaper, or TV, or radio station.
Be prepared to start in an entry-level position.
Develop strong statistics background for market research positions.
Create a portfolio of writing showing originality and imagination for creative positions.
Gain knowledge of various media, contemporary tastes, and trends.
Participate in sales, promotions, or social media for student organizations or private businesses.
Complete an internship in a market research firm or advertising agency.
Supplement curriculum with courses in advertising, communications, business, art, or graphic design.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Account Coordination
Writing/Editing
Media Relations
Social Media
Account Management
Fundraising
Research

Public relations firms
Advertising agencies
In-house public relations departments
Trade associations
Colleges and universities
Nonprofit organizations
Government agencies

Obtain internship or other relevant work experience to break into this field. Be prepared to start at the bottom and work for promotions.
Develop strong research, public speaking, and interpersonal skills.
Seek experiences being self-directed and a team player.
Volunteer to write publications for nonprofit or student organizations.
Supplement curriculum with business courses.

BUSINESS

Management
Customer Service
Sales and Marketing
Human Resources
Insurance
Claims
Underwriting

Business organizations including banks, real estate agencies, insurance firms, and large and small corporations
Retailers including department, grocery, drug, specialty, variety, and book stores

Obtain a business minor.
Gain relevant experience through part-time jobs, internships, or volunteer work.
Secure leadership roles in campus organizations and student professional associations.
Seek experience as a financial officer or treasurer of a campus organization.
Develop strong analytical and computer skills.

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AREAS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES
<u>LAW</u> Law Assistance Prosecution Defense Contractual Corporate Nonprofit or Public Interest Government Mediation Lobbying	Law firms Government agencies State and local government Corporations Public interest organizations Private practice Colleges and universities	Participate in a debate or forensic team to hone communication skills. Join a pre-law student organization. Develop strong research skills and attention to detail. Take courses in, and gain experience with, mediation and conflict resolution. Obtain a summer or part-time job in a law firm. Plan to shadow an attorney to learn more about the field and various specialties. Complete special training requirements for paralegal positions. Attend law school and earn a JD to become an attorney. Maintain an excellent GPA and secure strong faculty recommendations to gain law school admittance. Plan to take the LSAT.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- A bachelor's degree in English is very broad and is sufficient for entry level positions in business and industry, as well as in areas such as entertainment, radio and television commentary, and museum work. Because English can lead to many different career paths, it is important to identify an area of interest and plan to gain the right skills, experiences, and credentials to enter that field.
- A major in English is also good preparation for continued graduate or professional training in areas such as English, law, political science/government, public administration, communications, religious studies (e.g., seminary).
- Be proactive, determined, assertive, and confident in order to secure freelance writing opportunities. Writers typically experience many rejections for each piece that is accepted for publication. Save samples of written work to be used for a portfolio. Cultivate other career opportunities in order to supplement a freelance writing income.
- Obtain additional areas of expertise such as journalism, broadcasting, technical writing, or politics for specialized positions.
- Conduct informational interviews or shadow professionals in careers of interest to learn more about their jobs.
- Join relevant professional associations. Attend their conferences and read journals.

What Can You Do With an English Major? (what some Wittenberg alumni have done with theirs right after graduation)

First Jobs and Graduate School data is gathered one year after graduation; this list represents multiple years of data.
Career consulting is available at Career Services, Room 210 COMPASS in Thomas Library, Phone (937) 327-7521.



First Jobs:

ADMISSION REPRESENTATIVE/COUNSELOR

Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
Wittenberg University

ANNUAL GIVING COORDINATOR

Ursuline Academy

ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE

Security National Bank
TTP, Inc.

ASSISTANT ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHER

JET Programme

CIRCULATION STUDENT AIDE

National Gallery of Art

COMMERCIAL LOAN SPECIALIST

Security National Bank

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Class of America, Inc.

CORPS MEMBER

AmeriCorps
AmeriCorps Vista-Asheville GreenWorks
City Year
Peace Corps
Teach for America

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

The Homer Laughlin China Company

HUMAN RESOURCE AND SALES MANAGER

Vivian Management Group, Inc.

IT RECRUITER

Pillar Technology

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

The Columbia Club

NATURE INSTRUCTOR

UNKNOWN

REGULATORY SPECIALIST

Christ Hospital

RESIDENCE HALL COORDINATOR

Capital University

SALES

Cox Media Group (Assistant)
First Investors (Representative)
Pearson Education, Inc. (Inside)
The Columbus Dispatch (Online)
Unimar, Inc.

TEACHER

Edward Lee McClain High School
Highland School (Upper School English)
Hilliard Darby High School
Lebanon Community School Corporation (English)

YOUTH DIRECTOR & TRAVEL TEAM COACH

Team One Lacrosse Club

Graduate School Programs:

ACCOUNTING

Wright State University

APPLIED ARTS

Syracuse University

CREATIVE WRITING

Chatham University
Miami University
St. Mary's College of California

EDUCATION

Boston College

EDUCATION-OTHER

The Ohio State University

ENGLISH

James Madison University
University of Cincinnati
University of Iowa
Wright State

HIGHER EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

The Ohio State University
University of Dayton

HUMANITIES-OTHER

St. Joseph University

JOURNALISM

New York University
University of Wisconsin - Madison

LAW

Gonzaga University
University of Cincinnati
University of Dayton

LIBRARY SCIENCE

The Catholic University of America
University of Pittsburgh

LITERATURE

University of Cincinnati
Wright State University

MARINE SCIENCE

University of Rhode Island

RELIGION

Methodist Theological School in Ohio

SPEECH PATHOLOGY

University of Cincinnati

Exploring What You Can Do With an English Major

Internships Done for Credit While at Wittenberg:

AVETEC

Springfield, OH

CLARK COUNTY DEPARTMENT JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

Springfield, OH

CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Cleveland, OH

COLIN COWIE WEDDINGS

New York, NY

DISNEY/ABC STUDIOS/"BROTHERS AND SISTERS"

Burbank, CA

DREAMTIME PUBLISHING

South Pasadena, FL

KNOWBLE MEDIA LLC

Springfield, OH

NORTHERN VIRGINIA MAGAZINE

McLean, VA

QBASE

Dayton, OH

SPRINGFIELD ARTS COUNCIL

Springfield, OH

SPRINGFIELD CITY SCHOOLS

Springfield, OH

SPRINGFIELD NEWS SUN

Springfield, OH

TECUMSEH LAND PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Yellow Springs, OH

THE TORCH

Springfield, OH

WESCOTT HOUSE

Springfield, OH

WEST LIFE NEWSPAPER

Avon Lake, OH

WITT IN WITT—TOUR GUIDE AGENCY

Wittenberg, Germany

WITT IN WITT--HANDERTWASSERSCHULE

Wittenberg, Germany

WITT IN WITT--MAYOR'S OFFICE

Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany

WITT IN WITT--WITTENBERG TELEVISION STATION/FILM
PROJECT

Wittenberg, Germany

WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY-VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

Springfield, OH

WKYC NEWS CHANNEL 3 CLEVELAND

Cleveland, OH