



Counselling & Career Centre



What Can I Do with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English? About English

English is the study of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar. It focuses on how various types of media, including books, magazines, newspapers, films, and advertising interplay in the world.

As an English major, you will explore the imaginative and practical uses of English through courses in literature, writing, rhetoric, and language. You will strengthen your communication skills, writing techniques, and will learn how to gather, analyze, synthesize, and communicate information. You will study a variety of literature from other cultures and various time periods. An appreciation for various distinguished works of literature will be developed, including Shakespeare, aboriginal literature, popular genres, poetry, drama, and national literatures.

Career/Job Opportunities

In a job market that is constantly changing, employers value English majors for their strong communication skills; English majors use the English language accurately and persuasively, in a speech and in writing. English majors are well suited for positions in government or law that depend on critical thinking, textual analysis, and advanced writing skills. In the business sector, English majors are sought out for their effective written communication skills and ability to critically analyze texts. English grads are able to quickly summarize lengthy reports, provide opinions of radically differing approaches to a business problem, and edit a critical marketing piece before it's sent to the printer. English majors find careers in publishing, business, industry, government, and teaching, among other industries.

If you would like to explore your interests, identify your goals; discuss your career options and job search strategies and discover how to make the most of your education, we encourage you to either drop by the Counselling and Career Centre in room 1402 or call 403-343-4064 to make an appointment with the Career and Employment Services Coordinator.

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For career information, enter the four digit number listed below in the Alberta Learning Information Services Website (www.alis.alberta.ca) or the National Occupational Classification Website (<http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>).

With your Bachelor of Arts in English you could be a:

Publicist #5124	Labor Relations Officer #1121	Account Executive #1122	College/University Admissions Officer #1221
Commentator #5123	Lobbyist #4164	Assistant Librarian #5211	Society Journalist #5123
Movie/Literary Critic #5123	Speech Writer #5121	Lawyer #4112	Journal Editor #5122
Market Researcher #4163	Researcher #4164/4165	Sport Desk Editor #5122	Financial Editor #5122
News Editor #5122	Playwright #5121	Literary Writer #5121	Copywriter #5121
Poet #5121	Book Actor/Actress #5135	Labour Market Policy Officer #4164	Marketing Writer #5121
Film Production Assistant #5227	Documentation Technician #5211	Museum Educator #5124	Judge #4211
Interpreter #5125	Academic Advisor #4143	Public Affairs Officer #5124	Telecommunications Editor #5122

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Local News Editor #5122	Caption Editor #5122	Screen writer #5121	Multimedia Author #5121
Game/Web Critic #5121	Ad Writer #5121	Advertising Agent #6411	Immigration Policy Analyst #4164
Author #5121	Biographer #5121	Interactive Media Writer #5121	On-line Reference Developer #5121
Social Policy Researcher #4164	Copy Chief #5122	Newspaper Editor #5122	Communications Officer #5124
Sales Representative #6421	Alumni Relations Officer	College Teacher #4131	Press Agent #5124
Foreign Affairs Reporter #5123	Program Researcher, Radio or Television #5123	Human Resources Specialist #1121	Legislative Aide #1222
Public Relations Consultant #5124	Co-op Officer #4143	Fundraiser #5124	Author #5121

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Employers (not a comprehensive list)

Advertising Agencies	Magazines/Newspapers	Libraries	Law Firms
Book Publishers	Theatres	Public Relations Firms	Medical Institutions
Educational Institutions	Engineering Firms	Government Agencies	Non Profit Organizations
Radio and TV Communications	Accounting Firms	Insurance Agencies	Financial Service Companies

Major Skills obtained from BA –English (not a comprehensive list)

- Ability to analyze written material and extract significant points
- Ability to Apply Techniques of Literary Research
- Confident Public Speaking Skills – Good at Making Oral Presentations
- Able to Reflect On and Discuss Ideas
- Proficient Editing Skills
- Superior Skills in Conceptual Analysis
- Able to Compare Interpretations
- Able to Confront a Mass of Information and Organize it Meaningfully
- Ability to Write Effectively
- Strong Evaluation Skills
- Able to Present Alternative View Points
- Demonstrate Superior Understanding of the Writing Process and Writing Techniques
- Demonstrated Skills in Literary Analysis and Critical Thinking and Writing
- Creative Problem-Solving Skills
- Able to Initiate, Plan, and Carry Out Complex Projects

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Listing of Potential Employers

City of Calgary – www.calgary.ca
City of Edmonton – www.edmonton.ca
City of Red Deer – www.reddeer.ca
Corus Entertainment – www.corusent.com
CTV Globe Media – www.ctvglobemedia.com
Deloitte and Touche – www.careers.deloitte.com/gateway.aspx
Manulife Financial – www.manulife.com/careers
Meyers Norris Penny LLP – www.mnp.ca
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP – www.pwcrecruiting.com
Provincial Government of Alberta – www.jobs.alberta.ca
Public Service Commission of Canada (Federal Government) – <http://jobs-emplois.gc.ca/>
RBC – www.rbc.com/careers/index.html
Reader's Digest – www.rd.com
Red Deer College – www.rdc.ab.ca
Rogers – www.rogers.com/index.html
Sapphire Technologies – www.sapphireca.com
Telus – <http://about.telus.com/careers/en/>

General Job Search Websites

Albertajobs.com – www.albertajobs.com
Eluta: The Search Engine for New Jobs in Canada – www.eluta.ca
Hireground Careers – www.hgcareers.com
JournalismJobs.com – www.journalismjobs.com
Monster: Your calling is calling – www.monster.ca
Red Deer Job Shop – www.reddeerjobshop.ca
Service Canada: Job Bank – www.jobbank.gc.ca
TalentEgg: hatching graduate careers – www.talentegg.ca
Workopolis.com: Canada's Biggest Job Site – www.workopolis.com
Wowjobs: One Click All Jobs – www.wowjobs.ca

Professional Associations and Sites of Interest

Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English – www.accute.ca
Association of Canadian Publishers – www.publishers.ca
Canadian Authors Association – www.canauthors.org
Canadian Magazine Publishers Association – www.cmpa.ca
Editors' Association of Canada (EAC) – www.editors.ca
League of Canadian Poets – www.poets.ca
Professional Writers Association of Canada – www.pwac.ca
Writer's Guild of Alberta – www.writersguild.ab.ca
Writers' Union of Canada – www.writersunion.ca

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RDC Department Information

Bachelor of Arts: English -

http://www.rdc.ab.ca/academic_calendar/program_course_listing/degree_completion_programs/Pages/university_of_calgary_bachelor_of_arts.aspx

For More Info

Please contact the Career & Employment Services Coordinator
403.314.2476

Counselling & Career Centre - Room 1402

employmentservices@rdc.ab.ca

Information adapted from

<http://www.mcgill.ca/files/caps/english.pdf>

<http://www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/majors/english.htm>

<http://www.uwec.edu/career/students/major/english.htm>

<http://www.worldwidelearn.com/online-education-guide/arts-humanities/english-major.htm>

<http://www2.yk.psu.edu/common/degrees/undergrad/bacc/english/engmajor.shtml>

What You Can Do with an Arts Degree, written by Dave Studd and Philip Schofield

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