

ABOUT THE MAJOR

The English major at the University of Utah allows you to enter a world rich with intellectual possibilities. In addition to studying the vast range of literature written in English from the 8th century through the present day, you'll have the opportunity to explore theory, film, graphic novels, video games, digital humanities, and popular culture while developing skills in critical and creative writing. These skills extend beyond literature; they are also central to any career or subsequent degree that demands the ability to think, argue, write, and speak about complicated issues. All English courses are designed to foster analytical agility: you will read compelling, intricately-constructed works of literature, pull them apart, turn them inside out, and put them back together again to understand how they work. The English program at the University of Utah is frequently recognized as one of the strongest in the University. With smaller class sizes, you will receive a level of personal attention that is not possible at most large public universities. English produces smarter, more self-aware people who can master new fields quickly and move between them successfully. You'll be capable of analyzing complex systems and understanding nuance in a world that is seldom black and white.




LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Learn to identify important issues raised by a text and state them in clear, well-focused language.
- Learn to analyze and interpret texts with close attention to language as well as ideas.
- Learn to apply critical analysis to cultural artifacts, particularly texts, in a specific culture and across cultures.
- Develop the ability to work critically with fundamental ideas about literary genres, themes, styles, historical periods, and cultural contexts.
- Become familiar with major literary theories and critical approaches.
- Pursue research using both technological and archival resources.
- Learn to effectively address the complex issues or interpretive challenges that texts present and develop your own critical hypotheses.

PLAN & PREPARE

At the U, we plan for our students to have an Exceptional Educational Experience identified by four broad categories we call the Learning Framework: Community, Knowledge & Skills, Transformation, and Impact. This major map will help you envision, explore, design, and plan your personalized Exceptional Educational Experience with the Learning Framework at the core. In addition to assisting you in planning your coursework and navigating the requirements of your major, this map will help you incorporate other kinds of experiences to expand your knowledge, support your development, and prepare you for the future you want.

GET STARTED TODAY

-  Schedule an appointment with an advisor advising.utah.edu
-  Visit ugs.utah.edu
-  Learn more about the Learning Framework ugs.utah.edu/learning-framework



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ENGL

ENGLISH

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES



Community



Knowledge & Skills



Transformation



Impact

"As the chief prosecutor of a newly formed war crimes court and as a Senior Foreign Service Officer, I write and speak publicly every day. Prior to that, in almost thirty years in the U.S. Department of Justice, there was a daily demand for writing in order to communicate, to educate, to inform, and to advocate. In all of this there was also a fundamental need to be able to read and think critically and analytically. All of this got its start for me in the English department at the University of Utah."

*>> David Schwendiman
Chief Prosecutor, Kosovo Specialist Prosecutor's Office*

ENGLISH

Use this map to explore, envision, design, and plan your Exceptional Educational Experience.

GETTING STARTED

MAKING PROGRESS

FINISHING UP

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER GRADUATION?

COURSES

- Prioritize starting a language to fulfill the B.A. language requirement
- Fulfill the QA (i.e. math) requirement during your first year
- Take ENGL 3850 – Introductory Seminar in Literary Study

- Strategically fulfill Gen Ed and major requirements with courses like ENGL 2095 – Literature by the Numbers (QB), ENGL 2500 – Intro to Creative Writing (FF), ENGL 2700 – Diversity in Amer Literature (DV), and ENGL 3780 – Global/Transnational Literature (IR)

- Intentionally select other English courses based upon your interests and professional goals
- Take courses outside of English to discover possible double majors, minors, or add to your skill set

- Take ENGL 5650 – Advanced Seminar in Literary Study
- Complete an undergraduate research project or thesis if applicable
- Apply for graduation

- Advertising
- Banking
- Creative Writing
- Diplomacy
- Editing
- English as a Second Language
- Entrepreneurship
- Financial Advising
- Grant Writing
- Higher Education
- Insurance
- Journalism
- Law
- Librarianship
- Marketing
- Medicine
- Politics/Activism
- Public Relations
- Publishing
- Secondary Education
- Social Media
- Technical Writing

COMMUNITY

- Attend first year welcome events such as the Dept of English Welcome Breakfast, College of Humanities Pizza Party, PlazaFest, etc.
- Get to know both your fellow students and your professors—many will become your lifelong friends and mentors

- Get involved with a writing/literary student group like The Canticle, the English Student Enrichment Association, The Daily Utah Chronicle, or Wasatch Magazine
- Continue building relationships with your fellow students and professors

- Reach out to English alumni in your chosen career field to build your professional network
- Purchase an Arts Pass and use it to attend artistic and cultural events

- Keep in touch with your fellow students and meet other Utah alums in our global network by joining the Alumni Association

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Attend the Major Expo to explore majors and minors
- Meet with your academic advisor and professors
- Use your Gen Ed coursework to explore areas of interest outside your major or minor

- Gain new skills that complement your major coursework by taking courses or workshops outside of your major
- Explore undergraduate research opportunities through the UROP¹ or the Honors College

- Consider studying abroad via the Department of English's London Summer Program or another learning abroad program

- Complete an undergraduate research project or thesis if applicable
- Create an ePortfolio that highlights your academic achievements and professional potential

TRANSFORMATION

- Explore student clubs and organizations at the U at PlazaFest or by visiting the ASUU² website
- Use Gen Ed courses to discover other subjects and methodologies
- Take time to reflect upon your interests, values, talents, and aspirations

- Intentionally select major(s)/minor(s) that match your personal, academic, and professional goals
- Join or even start a student club or organization
- Participate in one of the Alternate Breaks organized by the Bennion Center

- Visit the Bennion Center to find out how you can participate in a service project
- Devote time to self-exploration and self-awareness

- Thank all of the family members, friends, students, staff, and faculty who helped you graduate from the U
- Attend commencement and convocation

IMPACT

- Attend a MUSE³ Casual Friday
- Use what you learn both in your classes and outside of them to reflect upon the problems you see in the world (locally, state-wide, nationally, and globally)

- Choose one or two problems that you would like to devote your time and talent to solve; strategize a plan for incorporating this mission into your academic and career plans

- Explore volunteer opportunities
- Join or even create a student organization related to this project

- Organize a community service project or fundraising event
- Make alumni contacts via LinkedIn or AlumniFire who can serve as mentors as you move forward in accomplishing your chosen mission

CAREER

- Complete career exploration activities such as Focus2, Clifton Strengths by Gallup, Knowdell Career Values Card Sort, MBTI, etc.
- Meet with your academic advisor as well as your Career Coach in the CPDC⁴

- Continue building relationships with your academic advisor and Career Coach
- Attend the Career Fair
- Begin working on your LinkedIn profile, resume, and cover letter

- Take a career course like HUM 3960
- Search for and secure an internship or part-time job relevant to your career aspirations
- Conduct informational interviews with alumni working in your chosen career field

- Polish your LinkedIn profile, resume, and cover letter
- Practice interviewing skills
- Use Handshake to find jobs
- Apply for jobs

¹Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program ²Associated Students of the U of U ³My U Signature Experience ⁴Career & Professional Development Center