

# Major Possibilities: English



## Career Services

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## Summary

- English majors will acquire the skills of interpretation, analysis, research and writing that are useful in a broad range of professional activities.
- It's important to gain hands-on experience in your area(s) of interest. Writing for *The Megaphone* and working as a writing consultant in the Debby Ellis Writing Center are two things you can do on campus during the school year.
- Writers with Web and multimedia experience are more competitive, since online publications and services are growing in number and sophistication.
- Authors, writers and editors held about 136,500 jobs in 2015. Roughly 70% of authors and writers and 12% of editors are self-employed.

## English major synopsis

Major requirements are in place to ensure that majors are exposed to a broad range of issues and texts representative of the discipline. Students select a concentration in Literature or one in Film and Literature. Courses include British literature written before 1785, British literature written since 1785, American literature, emergent literatures, and critical theory. The film concentration requires additional specific coursework in film. It is possible to pair English and Feminist Studies for a 15-course major by double counting selected cross-listed classes; see the course catalog for more information.

## Sample job titles

Account Executive	Documentation Specialist	Lawyer	Public Administrator
Admission Counselor	Editor	Librarian	Public Relations Officer
Advertising Executive	Editorial Assistant	Literary Agent	Radio Announcer
Antiques Dealer	English Language Assistant	Lobbyist	Real Estate Agent
Archivist	FBI Agent	Marketing Executive	Reporter
Art Gallery Director	Film/Video Staff	Media Specialist	Social Worker
Author	Freelance Writer	Medical Records Manager	Sports Commentator
Book Critic	Grant/Proposal Writer	Newspaper Staff	Teacher
Columnist	Greeting Card Writer	Paralegal	Technical Writer
Conservator	Hotel Management	Professor	Underwriter
Copywriter	Human Resources	Program Coordinator	
Curator	Investment Counselor	Proofreader	

## Sample internship employers of SU students

AARP of Texas	Mark Strama Campaign
Allstate Insurance Company	McRae Entertainment
<i>Austin American-Statesman</i>	Media PT – Chatsworth, CA
<i>Austin Woman Magazine</i>	National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy
Badgerdog Publishing	National Endowment for the Humanities
Bartholet Home Furnishings	<i>People Magazine</i>
Can of Worms	Phenix & Phenix Literary Publicists
CBS 11 Television Station	PR by the Book
Child Support Division	Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey
Clocktower Productions – New York, NY	Sierra – San Francisco, CA
Congressman John Carter District Office – Round Rock, TX	St. Louis Homes and Lifestyles
Dallas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse	SU Department of Philosophy
Davis and Fox Law, PLLC	SU Public Relations
Diocese of West Texas	SU Library – Special Collections
Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, Inc.	Sysco Food Services
GX Creative Communications	<i>Texas Monthly Magazine</i>
House Representative Lou Burnam	TX State Senate Human Resources Department
<i>Houston Chronicle</i>	<i>The Dallas Morning News</i>
IBM Research Triangle	<i>The Miami Herald</i> – Miami, FL
LV Agency, Inc. – New York, NY	<i>The Oregonian</i> – Portland, OR
<i>Manhattan File Magazine</i>	Williamson Museum – Georgetown, TX

## Sample full-time employers of SU grads

Account Coordinator (Ketchum Public Relations)	Communications Director (St. Luke's Episcopal Church)
Admission Counselor (Texas Woman's University)	Copy Editor (Pearson)
Admission Counselor (Southwestern University)	Editorial Assistant (Southern Methodist University Press)
Assistant Librarian (Story Branch Library)	Editorial Assistant (Benchmark Ed. Company)
Assistant to Director of University (International Studies Abroad)	Education Reporter ( <i>Williamson County Sun</i> )
Children's Writing and Art Instructor (Dougherty Arts Center)	Elementary English Teacher (French Ministry of Education)

## **Sample full-time employers of SU grads, continued**

English Teacher (Georgetown ISD, AmeriCorps, Cordovan School of the Arts, French Embassy, Fulbright Fellowships)  
English Language Assistant (Ministry of Education, Spain)  
Financial Aid Counselor (UT Austin)  
Health and Welfare Associate (Employee Benefit Solutions Inc.)  
In-House Writer/Editor (Attorneys Online, Inc.)  
Language Assistant (Ministry of National Education, France)  
Legal Assistant (Lorenz & Lorenz)  
Legal Assistant (W. H. Connor Law Office)  
Marketing Assistant (Arts Center Enterprise, Inc.)  
Marketing Freelance Writer (Grossman Law Offices)  
Network Editor (FYI Television)  
Office Assistant (Law Office of William Conner)

Outreach Coordinator (Reading Partners)  
Owner/CEO (Bliss Event Planning)  
Political Organizer Fellowship (USPIRG)  
Production Assistant (Nickelodeon)  
Properties Apprentice (Dallas Theatre Center)  
Proposal Writer (IBM/Prairie Quest Consulting)  
Public Policy Specialist (Texas Parent to Parent)  
Service Leader (City Year New York)  
Sports Writer (*Cleburne Times Review*)  
Substitute Teacher (Brentwood Christian Schools)  
Technical Writer (National Instruments)  
Tutor (AmeriCorps for Community Engagement and Education)

## **Professional associations**

American Book Producers Association: [www.abpaonline.org](http://www.abpaonline.org)  
American Copy Editors Society: [www.copydesk.org](http://www.copydesk.org)  
American Library Association: [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org)  
American Society of Journalists and Authors: [www.asja.org](http://www.asja.org)  
American Society of Magazine Editors: [magazine.org/asme](http://magazine.org/asme)  
American Society of Newspaper Editors: [www.asne.org](http://www.asne.org)  
Association of American Publishers: [www.publishers.org](http://www.publishers.org)  
National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences: [www.emmys.tv](http://www.emmys.tv)  
National Association of Broadcasters: [www.nab.org](http://www.nab.org)  
National Cable Telecommunications Association: [www.ncta.com](http://www.ncta.com)  
National Writers Association: [www.nationalwriters.com](http://www.nationalwriters.com)  
Newspaper Association of America: [www.naa.org](http://www.naa.org)  
Poets and Writers: [www.pw.org](http://www.pw.org)  
Society for Technical Communication, Inc: [www.stc.org](http://www.stc.org)  
Association Media and Publishing: <http://associationmediaandpublishing.org/>  
Writers Guild of America: [www.wga.org](http://www.wga.org)

## **Additional Web resources**

Advertising & Media Jobs Search: [www.nationjob.com/media](http://www.nationjob.com/media)  
Authorlink: [www.authorlink.com/index.html](http://www.authorlink.com/index.html)  
Broadcast Employment Services: [www.tvjobs.com](http://www.tvjobs.com)  
Chronicle of Higher Education: [chronicle.com/jobs/](http://chronicle.com/jobs/)  
The Write Job: [www.writejobs.com/](http://www.writejobs.com/)  
The Washington Post: [www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/06/18/AR2005061801428.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/06/18/AR2005061801428.html)  
Teach for America: [www.teachforamerica.org/](http://www.teachforamerica.org/)

## **Career Services' print resources**

Careers for Bookworms and Other Literary Types  
Career Opportunities in Journalism  
Career Opportunities in the Publishing Industry  
Career Opportunities in Writing  
Careers in Communications  
Creative Careers: Paths for Aspiring Actors, Artists, Dancers, Musicians and Writers  
Explore the World of Professional & Scholarly Publishing  
Freelance Success Book: Insider Secrets for Selling Every Word You Write  
Great Jobs for English Majors: Third Edition  
How to Become a Full-Time Freelance Writer

How to Get a Job In Publishing  
Opportunities in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages  
Opportunities in Technical Writing Careers  
Starting Your Career as a Freelance Writer  
Teaching English Abroad  
Teaching English Overseas  
The Social Media Marketing Book  
The Business of Writing for Children  
Vault Career Guide to Journalism and Information Media  
Vault Career Guide to Media and Entertainment  
What to do with Your English or Communications Degree