# **Major Possibilities: English**



#### Summary

- English majors will acquire the skills of interpretation, analysis, research and writing that are useful in a broad range of professional
- 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
- Authors, writers and editors held about 244,400 jobs in 2012. Roughly 70% of authors and writers and 12% of editors are selfemployed.

#### **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 must take Literary Analysis and Methods before taking other courses in the department. The major requires one course in English literature written before 1785, one course in English literature written since 1785, one course in American literature, one course in emergent literatures and popular cultures, and one course in critical theory. Students must take a total of at least nine courses overall, at least six of which must be upper-level. 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

Curator

Account Executive **Documentation Specialist** Advertising Executive Editor Antiques Dealer Editorial Assistant **Archivist** FBI Agent Art Gallery Director Film/Video Staff Freelance Writer **Author Book Critic** Grant/Proposal Writer Columnist Greeting Card Writer Conservator Hotel Management Copywriter **Human Resources** 

Lawyer Librarian Literary Agent Lobbyist Marketing Executive Media Specialist Medical Records Manager Newspaper Staff Paralegal Professor **Program Coordinator** 

McRae Entertainment

Proofreader **Public Administrator Public Relations Officer** Radio Announcer Real Estate Agent Reporter Social Worker **Sports Commentator** Teacher **Technical Writer** Underwriter

#### Sample internship employers of SU students

Investment Counselor

AARP of Texas Allstate Insurance Company Austin American-Statesman Austin Woman Magazine Badgerdog Publishing Bartholet Home Furnishinas Can of Worms CBS 11 Television Station Child Support Division

Dallas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse

Davis and Fox Law, PLLC Diocese of West Texas

Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, Inc. **GX Creative Communications** House Representative Lou Burnam

Houston Chronicle IBM Research Triangle

LV Agency, Inc. - New York City, NY

Manhattan File Magazine Mark Strama Campaign

Sample full-time employers of SU grads

Account Coordinator (Ketchum Public Relations) Admissions Counselor (Texas Woman's University) Assistant to Director of University (International Studies Abroad) Children's Writing and Art Instructor (Dougherty Arts Center)

Media PT - Chatsworth, CA National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy National Endowment for the Humanities People Magazine Phenix & Phenix Literary Publicists PR by the Book Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey Sierra – San Francisco, CA St. Louis Homes and Lifestyles SU Public Relations SU Library - Special Collections Sysco Food Services Texas Monthly Magazine TX State Senate Human Resources Department The Dallas Mornina News The Miami Herald - Miami, FL The Oregonian - Portland, OR Williamson Museum

Editorial Assistant (Southern Methodist University Press) Education Reporter (Williamson County Sun) Elementary English Teacher (French Ministry of Education) English Teacher (Georgetown ISD, AmeriCorps, Cordovan School of the Arts, French Embassy, Fulbright Fellowships)

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

Communications Director (St. Luke's Episcopal Church)

Editorial Assistant (Benchmark Ed. Company) Education Reporter (Williamson County Sun)

Financial Aid Counselor (UT Austin)

Health and Welfare Associate (Employee Benefit Solutions Inc.)

In-House Writer/Editor (Attorneys Online, Inc.)

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)

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

American Copy Editors Society: www.copydesk.org

American Library Association: www.ala.ora

American Society of Journalists and Authors: <a href="www.asja.org">www.asja.org</a> American Society of Magazine Editors: <a href="asme.magazine.org">asme.magazine.org</a> American Society of Newspaper Editors: <a href="www.asne.org">www.asne.org</a> Association of American Publishers: <a href="www.publishers.org">www.publishers.org</a>

Black Women in Publishing: <a href="http://aalbc.com/writers/black2.htm">http://aalbc.com/writers/black2.htm</a>
National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences: <a href="https://www.emmys.tv">www.emmys.tv</a>

National Association of Broadcasters: www.nab.org

National Cable Telecommunications Association: www.ncta.com

National Writers Association: <a href="www.nationalwriters.com">www.nationalwriters.com</a> Newspaper Association of America: <a href="www.naa.org">www.naa.org</a>

Poets and Writers: www.pw.ora

Society for Technical Communication, Inc: www.stc.org

Association Media and Publishing: http://associationmediaandpublishing.org/

Writers Guild of America: www.wga.org

#### Additional Web resources

Advertising & Media Jobs Search: www.nationjob.com/media

Authorlink: <a href="www.authorlink.com/index.html">www.authorlink.com/index.html</a>
Broadcast Employment Services: <a href="www.tvjobs.com">www.tvjobs.com</a>
Chronicle of Higher Education: <a href="chronicle.com/jobs/">chronicle.com/jobs/</a>

JournalismNow: <a href="https://www.journalismnow.com/">www.journalismnow.com/</a>
The Write Job: <a href="https://www.writejobs.com/">www.writejobs.com/</a>

The Washington Post: <a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/06/18/AR2005061801428.html">www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/06/18/AR2005061801428.html</a>

Teach for America: 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