

What can I do with my degree in...Bachelor of Arts, English?

Knowing What's Expected

The study of literature develops an appreciation for language, culture, and values. Studying the literature of one's culture develops through exposure to different verbal styles, practice in oral and written critical analysis and acquaintances with the major themes of human experience. If you enjoy reading analytically and creatively, as well as thinking critically and communicating effectively, then you will enjoy the options that the English Major affords.

Jobs in the arts require a strong command of language and the ability to demonstrate talent, persistence, assertiveness and enthusiasm.

Transferable Skills

- ❖ Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- ❖ Knowledge of business management and social trends
- ❖ Must be willing to work well with others
- ❖ Ability to listen, clarify, question, and respond comprehensively
- ❖ Ability to conduct and clearly explain research results
- ❖ Ability to make critical observations
- ❖ Skills in organizing ideas, materials, and people
- ❖ Ability to present persuasive arguments

Your Choices

An English Major offers a broad background in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences.

As a result, you may pursue occupations in sectors such as communications, culture, law, religion, and administration.

**Some of these occupations will require further education.

Careers for English Majors

- ❖ Teaching
- ❖ Journalism
- ❖ Foreign Affairs
- ❖ Public Administration
- ❖ Politics
- ❖ Business
- ❖ Advertising
- ❖ Editing
- ❖ Writing
- ❖ Media planner
- ❖ Media publishing
- ❖ Editorial assistant
- ❖ Publications researcher
- ❖ Manuscript reader
- ❖ Book critic
- ❖ Novelist
- ❖ Real estate agent
- ❖ Documentation specialist

Necessary Skills

- ❖ Organizing
- ❖ Project Management
- ❖ Leadership
- ❖ Strong research skills
- ❖ Public speaking/debate skills
- ❖ Word processing and editing skills

What Employers Want

Contributions you make to your community reflect well on you as an individual. Employers are looking for students who are dedicated, hard working, and show a commitment to their interests.

By getting involved in on-campus societies (see-www.mountstudents.ca) and volunteering early, you will not only show credibility in your area of interest but also a willingness to work towards goals.

Associations

Why join now? Professional associations are a great way to network within your field of study. Not only do these organizations help get you connected, they also help keep you well-informed. Many also have discounted student membership rates.

- ❖ Alliance for preservation of English in Canada
www.apec.ca
- ❖ Canadian Library Association
www.cla.ca
- ❖ Writer's Federation of Nova Scotia
www.writers.ns.ca
- ❖ Association of Translators and Interpreters of Nova Scotia
www.atins.org

Available Reference Materials

What to Do With Your Degree

- ❖ What You Can Do with an Arts Degree
- ❖ Great Jobs for English Majors

Occupation Information

- ❖ Opportunities in Entertainment Careers
- ❖ Careers for Writers & Others Who Have a Way with Words
- ❖ Careers In Culture (binders)
- ❖ www.careercruising.com

Directories

- ❖ Who's Hiring
- ❖ Associations Canada
- ❖ Canadian Career Directory
- ❖ Halifax Directory of Community Services

Job Searching

Job Hunting Websites

- ❖ www.msvu.ca/careerplanning
- ❖ The Halifax Herald
www.jobspress.com
- ❖ Nova Scotia Public Service Commission
www.gov.ns.ca/psc/services/employ
- ❖ Government of Canada
<http://jobs.gc.ca>
- ❖ Atlantic Canada Careers
www.acc.net

For More Information Visit:

www.msvu.ca/careerplanning
Career Planning Services
Evaristus Hall, Room 218
Mount Saint Vincent University
Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3M 2J5
Tel: 902.457.6567 Fax: 902.445.2201
E-mail: careerplanning@msvu.ca