



# What can I do with a major in **ENGLISH** from Valparaiso University?

## Description of major:

Students interested in developing their capacities to enjoy and understand imaginative literature would be interested in this major. Students cultivate close relationships with professors and ripen their analytical and expressive skills through writing and discussion. Provides an excellent qualification for numerous careers and professions as many employers appreciate the liberal arts skills learned through this major.

## Relevant skills for an ENGLISH major:

- ◆ Accuracy
- ◆ Adapting ideas
- ◆ Analyzing complex ideas
- ◆ Arguing logically
- ◆ Clarity
- ◆ Coherence in writing and speech
- ◆ Comparing and Summarizing
- ◆ Defining
- ◆ Designing projects
- ◆ Directing projects
- ◆ Gathering information
- ◆ Generating new ideas
- ◆ Influencing and Persuading
- ◆ Informing and Explaining
- ◆ Interpreting confused language
- ◆ Interpreting instructions
- ◆ Problem solving
- ◆ Questioning conventions
- ◆ Reading for ideas
- ◆ Reading for tone and attitude
- ◆ Rewriting and Editing
- ◆ Seeing connections
- ◆ Simplifying jargon
- ◆ Sizing up an audience
- ◆ Thinking independently
- ◆ Weighing values
- ◆ Working in groups
- ◆ Writing proficiency

## Sample work activities for Graduates in ENGLISH (some may require an advanced degree)

- Announcer (Radio/TV)
  - Business Communications
  - Business/Industry
  - Columnist
  - Communications/Public Relations
  - Community Relations Specialist
  - Convention Organizer
  - Copy Editor
  - Copywriter
  - Documents Analyst
  - Editor/Freelance
  - Foreign Service
  - Foundation Work, Not-for-Profits
  - Government Service
  - Human Services
  - Humanities & Arts Councils
  - Information Specialist
  - Information Specialist
  - Interviewer
  - Journalism
  - Management Trainee
  - Marketing Trainee
  - Peace Corps/Vista
  - Personnel Relations
  - Press Representative
  - Press Representative (Legislator)
  - Procedures Analyst
  - Program Planner
  - Public Opinion Analyst
  - Public Relations Writer
  - Public Service
  - Publicity Coordinator
  - Reporter
  - Research & Development
  - Research Analyst
  - Research Publication Editing
  - Retailing/Buying
  - Script Writer (Radio/TV)
  - Special Concerns Advocate
  - University/College Relations
  - Writer
  - Critic
- Publishing
- Acquisitions Editing
  - Advertising
  - Contracts and Permission
  - Copy Editing
  - Data Processing
  - Production
  - Project Editing
  - Publicity and Promotion
  - Sales
- Teaching
- College Administration
  - English as a Second Language
  - Public or Private School
  - University Teaching/Research
- Advertising
- Advertising Traffic Manager
  - Copy Writer
  - Editor/Proofreader
  - Sales Writer

## Potential hiring institutions for ENGLISH majors:

- ◆ Advertising departments & firms
- ◆ Business corporations
- ◆ Colleges & schools
- ◆ Department stores
- ◆ Education Department
- ◆ Educational institutions
- ◆ Film companies
- ◆ Government Printing Office
- ◆ Libraries
- ◆ Library of Congress
- ◆ Literary periodicals
- ◆ Magazines and newspapers
- ◆ Not-for Profit/Philanthropic Foundations
- ◆ Political action groups
- ◆ Public relations firms
- ◆ Publishing companies
- ◆ Radio/TV stations
- ◆ Research & Development firms
- ◆ Travel agencies

## Area of further education for ENGLISH majors:

- Accounting
- Agricultural ENGLISH & Agribusiness
- Area & Cultural Studies
- Business Administration
- City & Regional Planning
- Communication
- Demography & Population Studies
- ENGLISH
- Education
- Environmental Studies & Science
- Finance & Banking
- Foreign Language & Literature
- Gender Studies
- Geography
- Insurance
- International Affairs
- International Development
- Law
- Liberal Studies
- Management Information Systems
- Management Strategy
- Policy
- Mineral ENGLISH
- Political Science
- Public Policy & Administration
- Quantitative Analysis
- Real Estate
- Social Sciences
- Sociology
- Sustainable Development
- Taxation
- Urban Studies
- and others!

## Sources of additional information for ENGLISH majors:

- VU Department of English: <http://www.valpo.edu/english/>
- VU Majors & Areas of Study: <http://www.valpo.edu/cas/departments/english.html>
- Occupational Outlook Handbook: the US Bureau of Labor Statistics compiles information about various occupations, including the nature of the work, the job outlook, the earnings, and other relevant information. <http://www.bls.gov/oco/oco1002.htm>
- Advertising Job Bank: The Advertising Job Bank is an employment information resource to inform both employees and employers involved in advertising about job openings and applicant qualifications. <http://pwr.com/ADJOBANK/>
- Advertising Media Internet Center: Resources & data for advertising and marketing professionals. <http://www.amic.com>
- American Association of Advertising Agencies: The American Association of Advertising Agencies (AAAA) is the national trade association of the advertising agency business. The AAAA acts as the industry's spokesperson with government, media, and the public sector. Many clients and several agency search consultants include AAAA membership as a credential in their initial screening process. Site has a link to an Advertising Jobs Site. <http://www.aaaa.org/>
- American Journalism Review: Links to other sites, articles and an employment section. <http://ajr.org/>
- American Society of Journalists and Authors: brings leadership in establishing professional and ethical standards, and in recognizing and encouraging the pursuit of excellence in nonfiction writing. Includes tips and information for writers. <http://www.asja.org>
- Association for Women in Communication: the one organization that recognizes the complex relationships that exist across communications disciplines. Modern communicators must demonstrate competence in varied disciplines and be able to network and make career moves across the broad spectrum of communications fields. Site includes a Careers and Networking page. <http://www.womcom.org/>
- Authorlink: a marketplace where editors and agents buy and sell rights to unpublished and published manuscripts, and screenplays. Plus industry news, information, and marketing services for editors, literary agents, and readers. Site includes a Jobs section. <http://www.authorlink.com/>

- Creative Freelancers: Connects Freelancers & clients. This site contains FREE listings for all professionals and portfolios of the talent. <http://www.freelancers.com/>
- Famous English Majors: compiled by the Mississippi State University Department of English. <http://www.msstate.edu/Dept/English/names.html>
- Gebbie Press: An online directory of major magazine publishers. <http://www.gebbieinc.com/>
- JournalismJobs: Includes job listings, interviews with professionals in the field, the latest industry news and much more. <http://www.journalismjobs.com/>
- Journalistic Resources Page: Links to all kinds of resources related to Journalism. <http://www.markovits.com/journalism/>
- Modern Language Association: provides opportunities for its members to share their scholarly findings and teaching experiences with colleagues and to discuss trends in the academy. Site includes a Job Information List. <http://www.mla.org/>
- National Council of Teachers of English: devoted to improving the teaching and learning of English and the language arts at all levels of education. <http://www.ncte.org>
- Teach For America: Federal government-funded teaching opportunities. <http://www.teachforamerica.org>
- Teachers of English to Students of Other Languages: TESOL Career page that includes placement, employment and career information. <http://www.tesol.org>
- Teaching Jobs Overseas: International employment for teachers. <http://www.joyjobs.com/>
- The Write Jobs: a job board that maintains listings of current employment opportunities for those with writing skills. Positions listed include journalism positions, editor positions, staff writing positions, freelance writing positions, positions involving technical writing and related positions. <http://www.writerswrite.com/jobs/>
- U.S. Department of Education: to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence for all Americans. Site includes jobs at the Department of Education as well as relevant information for teachers. <http://www.ed.gov/>
- Voice of the Shuttle: Various resources and websites devoted to arts & humanities studies. <http://vos.ucsb.edu>

#### **VU Career Center Resource Library Materials:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>100 Best Nonprofits To Work For</i></li> <li>• <i>Book Of U.S. Government Jobs : Where They Are, What's Available, And How To Get One</i></li> <li>• <i>Career Opportunities In Education</i></li> <li>• <i>Career Opportunities In Law And The Legal Industry</i></li> <li>• <i>Career Opportunities In Politics, Government &amp; Activism</i></li> <li>• <i>Careers For Bookworms &amp; Other Literary Types</i></li> <li>• <i>Careers For History Buffs &amp; Others Who Learn From The Past</i></li> <li>• <i>Chicago Creative Directory</i></li> <li>• <i>Civil Service Career Starter</i></li> <li>• <i>Essays That Worked For Law Schools : 35 Essays From Successful Applications To The Nation's Top Law Schools</i></li> <li>• <i>Essays That Worked, For Business Schools : 35 Essays From Successful Applications To The Nation's Top Business Schools</i></li> <li>• <i>Federal Personnel Guide 2005</i></li> <li>• <i>Getting On The Air &amp; Into Print : A Citizen's Guide To Chicago-Area Media</i></li> <li>• <i>Graduate Programs In Education</i></li> <li>• <i>Graduate Programs In Humanities</i></li> <li>• <i>GRE Exam 2005</i></li> <li>• <i>Great Jobs For English Majors</i></li> <li>• <i>Great Jobs For Liberal Arts Majors</i></li> <li>• <i>Harvard Business School Guide To Careers In The Nonprofit Sector</i></li> <li>• <i>Harvard College Guide To Careers In Government &amp; Politics</i></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Inside Secrets To Finding A Career In Travel</i></li> <li>• <i>Job Surfing : Media And Entertainment : Using The Internet To Find A Job And Get Hired</i></li> <li>• <i>Law Schools</i></li> <li>• <i>LSAT 2005</i></li> <li>• <i>Media Internship Book</i></li> <li>• <i>Non-Profits Job Finder</i></li> <li>• <i>O'Dwyer's Directory Of Corporate Communications</i></li> <li>• <i>Opportunities In Fund-Raising Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Opportunities In Government Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Opportunities In Hotel And Motel Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Opportunities In Journalism Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Opportunities In Law Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Opportunities In Library And Information Science</i></li> <li>• <i>Opportunities In Publishing Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Opportunities In Sales Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Opportunities In Social Science Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Opportunities In Travel Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Peterson's Game Plan For Getting Into Business School</i></li> <li>• <i>Peterson's Game Plan For Getting Into Law School</i></li> <li>• <i>Peterson's Graduate Programs In Business, Education, Health, Information Studies, Law &amp; Social Work</i></li> <li>• <i>Peterson's Graduate Programs In The Humanities, Arts, &amp; Social Sciences</i></li> <li>• <i>Resumes For Advertising Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Resumes For Business Management Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Resumes For Communications Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>and others!</i></li> </ul> |
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**For more information about majoring in ENGLISH, contact:**

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**For more questions about your career decisions, please make an appointment with a VU Career Counselor by calling 464-5005, stopping by the Career Center in Alumni Hall or e-mailing us at [Career.Center@valpo.edu](mailto:Career.Center@valpo.edu)**

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