



## Career Options in **ENGLISH**

English is a major branch of the language arts and its main focus is on the written word. English majors study important works of literature--drama, prose, poetry--focusing on the point of view, organization, and language of the works. In addition to developing critical and analytical reading skills, students get practice in language use and composition. Students who elect either the elementary or secondary emphasis of the English major will be prepared for teaching at those levels. English majors and minors in any emphasis are valued because of their communication skills and their knowledge of the language. English majors may go on to graduate school, law school or directly into the work force. English majors are versatile employees.

**SAMPLE OCCUPATIONS:** Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of occupations related to this major. Specific requirements based on education level for each occupation may vary. For additional information and assistance, please speak with a Career Consultant.

### ***Bachelor's Degree/Entry Level***

Account Executive  
Editorial Writer  
Advertising Copywriter  
Legal Assistant  
Proofreader  
Technical Writer  
Newspaper Reporter  
Circulation Assistant  
Teacher  
Advertising Writer  
Marketing Assistant  
Public Relations Assistant  
In-House Editor (Book Publishing)  
Acquisition Editor (Book Publishing)  
Feature Writer  
Publicity Assistant  
Research Aide  
Customer Service Representative

### ***Advanced Degree/Experience Needed***

Human Resource Specialist  
Fundraiser  
Freelance Writer/Consultant  
Foreign Correspondent  
Editorial Assistant  
Editor  
Television Reporter  
Radio/TV Coordinator  
Personnel Director  
Literary Agent  
Journalist  
Librarian  
Copywriter  
Lawyer

### **SAMPLE WORK SETTINGS:**

Advertising Agencies  
Book Publishers  
Journalism  
Local School Boards  
On-Line Publications  
Trade Publications

Banks  
Colleges & Universities  
Legal Firms  
Museums  
Philanthropic Foundations  
Travel & Tourism

U.S. Congress  
Non government organizations  
Federal/State/Local Government  
Newspapers  
Public Relations Firms  
Tutoring Organizations

### **RELATED MAJOR SKILLS & CHARACTERISTICS FOR ENGLISH MAJORS:**

Influencing and persuading  
Clarifying ideas  
Problem solving  
Comparing interpretations  
Thinking independently  
Creative writing

Presenting alternative view points  
Making oral presentations  
Developing hypotheses  
Summarizing ideas  
Editing skills  
Oral and written communication skills

## **SAMPLE GW RESOURCES**

### **GW CAREER CENTER RESOURCES: <http://gwired.gwu.edu/career>**

GWork: <http://gwired.gwu.edu/career>

Career Search: <http://www.careersearch.net/gwu>

Career Resource Room Books:

*Great Jobs for English Majors*

*Great Jobs for Liberal Arts Majors*

*Writer's Market*

### **GW DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION: <http://www.gwu.edu/~english/>**

Undergraduates: <http://www.gwu.edu/~english/major.html>

Graduates: <http://www.gwu.edu/~gradengl/>

## **SAMPLE WEBSITES:**

### **Career Planning & Job Search Resources:**

The Write Jobs [www.writerswrite.com/jobs](http://www.writerswrite.com/jobs)

The Chronicle of Higher Education Career Network <http://chronicle.com/jobs>

TV Jobs: Broadcast Employment Services [http://www.tvjobs.com/index\\_a.htm](http://www.tvjobs.com/index_a.htm)

Job Links for Journalists <http://www.newslink.org/joblink.html>

Advertising and Media Jobs Page <http://www.nationjob.com/media>

### **Professional Organizations & Associations:**

Society for Technical Communication, Inc. [www.stc.org](http://www.stc.org)

American Society of Magazine Editors [www.asme.magazine.org/](http://www.asme.magazine.org/)

Public Relations Society of America [www.prsa.org](http://www.prsa.org)

American Academy of Advertising [advertising.utexas.edu/AAA/](http://advertising.utexas.edu/AAA/)

Magazine Publishers of America [www.magazine.org](http://www.magazine.org)

National Newspaper Publishing Association [www.nnpa.org](http://www.nnpa.org)

National Writers Union [www.nwu.org/nwuhome.htm](http://www.nwu.org/nwuhome.htm)

Small Publishers, Artists and Writers Network [www.spawn.org](http://www.spawn.org)

Small Publishers Association of North America <http://spannet.org>

Association of American Publishers [www.publishers.org](http://www.publishers.org)

Association of Authors and Publishers [www.authorsandpublishers.org](http://www.authorsandpublishers.org)

Association of Directory of Publishers [www.adp.org](http://www.adp.org)

Investigative Reporters & Editors <http://www.ire.org/>

*Developed by:*

The George Washington University Career Center

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Last revised: 2/13/2007