

TOP TEN REASONS TO MAJOR IN ENGLISH

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE



university of south carolina
ARTS & SCIENCES

MAKE
YOUTH

THE BEST PROFESSORS

LANGUAGE OF

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10 TALK YOUR WAY INTO A GREAT JOB

The skill most desired by employers is communication, which is taught in every English class. Students learn to analyze literary and nonliterary texts within cultural and historical contexts, to think critically, to write clearly and persuasively, and to understand ideas different from their own. These skills provide a foundation for whatever career you want to pursue, from teaching to practicing law.

“Majoring in English has opened up incredible opportunities for me. Where I have enjoyed small successes in my life, I know they have been based upon the foundation of knowledge and wealth of experience accrued while at Carolina.”

Melissa Howard Henshaw, MD, '87
associate dean for advocacy and advancement, College of Medicine,
and medical director of heart health,
Children's Heart Center of South
Carolina, Medical University of
South Carolina

“The practical benefits of an English major seem obvious to me. It teaches you skills that are fundamental in nearly every walk of life: how to read a text closely and critically, how to think about complex ideas and situations, how to put your thoughts into words in a way that is coherent and persuasive. Reading broadly and assiduously isn't a substitute for living large, but it sure is a good way to get you started.”

Robert F. Kline, '77
managing director and counsel, Citigroup

I'LL BE HIGHLY
VALUED FOR MY
**CRITICAL &
creative
THINKING**



IMPRESS YOUR
SIGNIFICANT OTHER
BY RECITING ONE OF
**Shakespeare's
sonnets**

Or maybe it's time to lay some Dickinson on them. And poetry is just the beginning. With courses in literature, creative writing, rhetoric and speech, linguistics, and film, you'll be exposed to a wide range of the best writing and thinking that humankind has to offer.

7 WATCHING A MOVIE IS REQUIRED HOMEWORK

And your learning won't be narrow and won't end in the classroom. Our diverse faculty boasts internationally known scholars in English and American literature, African American and Caribbean literature, composition and rhetoric, history of authorship and publishing, literary theory, linguistics, communication studies, film, and creative writing. We foster interdisciplinary work within the department and in our connections with such University programs as comparative literature, African American studies, linguistics, women's and gender studies, Southern studies, and film and media studies.

YOU WILL MAKE YOUR MARK ON THE WORLD

Don't let anyone tell you an English degree is worthless. Far from it. The knowledge and skills you learn will help launch your career: business, education, entertainment ... the choice is yours. Check out this list of English majors:

- Carol Browner
assistant to the president
for energy and climate change
- Chevy Chase
actor, comedian, writer
- Michael Eisner
former CEO, The Walt Disney Company
- A. Bartlett Giamatti
former baseball commissioner
- Joe Paterno
college football coach
- Sally Ride
astronaut
- Martin Scorsese
director, screenwriter, producer
- Sting
musician
- Clarence Thomas
U.S. Supreme Court justice
- Barbara Walters
journalist

And these are just a few examples.



5 WE HAVE SOME OF THE BEST PROFESSORS (AND THEY'LL KNOW YOUR NAME)

Not only that, but all majors are advised by full-time faculty members who will help you design the perfect course of study to meet your goals.

“Even at such a large university, the amount of student-professor interaction was outstanding, and the flexibility of the curriculum allowed me to complete all my requisite courses while charting a unique path to graduation and my career.”

Eric Liebetrau, '02
managing editor and nonfiction
editor, *Kirkus Review*

“My liberal arts education has been far more valuable in the business world than business training would have been. People say to me ‘Oh, you write so well.’ In business, if you can communicate something in a compelling way, people will take you much more seriously.”

John Hoey, '81
president and CEO,
YMCA of Central Maryland

4 ENGLISH IS THE LANGUAGE OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS



3 SOUND SMART, WIN ARGUMENTS

Skillful rhetoric is a powerful tool. In our department, you'll learn how to formulate your thoughts coherently and express them persuasively in classes that study everyone from Socrates to Sojourner Truth, and beyond.

“The environment created by the faculty was such that I felt challenged on a regular basis, and I am indebted to the faculty for providing me with a world-class liberal arts education in a state university setting. The skills I acquired as an English major have undoubtedly assisted me as an attorney.”

Jason W. Lockhart, '97
attorney, McAngus,
Goudelock, & Courie

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YOU WILL MAKE **GOOD FRIENDS**

Connect with other majors at readings by nationally prominent authors, a variety of film screenings, lectures by top scholars, and social events hosted by Ink!, our English majors' association.



ENGLISH MAJORS CAN **TAKE UP ANY CHALLENGE**

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“Tackling antitrust-law and federal budgets and federal communications regulations was easy compared to reading and understanding *Beowulf* in Old English.”

Leroy Chapman Jr., '94
governance editor, *The State* newspaper

The Department of English Language and Literature offers a strong and flexible major with concentrations in literature, creative writing and rhetoric, and secondary education. Our programs provide you with a foundation of knowledge and skills that can help you get anywhere you want to go.

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YOU'VE SEEN THE **TOP TEN** REASONS TO MAJOR IN **ENGLISH**

Now let the University's Department of English Language and Literature show you more. Explore all that English encompasses at South Carolina.

Ask a faculty member or visit our Web site:

www.cas.sc.edu/engl.





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