The English major is one of the largest in the College of Letters & Sciences! The major is so popular because in English classes, students get to read and study great literature, write creatively, and explore a wide range of interesting topics in small classes taught by our great faculty. Our award-winning faculty and instructors are frequently rated as some of the best teachers in the university, while our exceptionally bright and diverse majors excel both as undergraduates and beyond.
English Tracks

The English major is a 30-credit (10 courses) major.

Students can choose one emphasis amongst three possible tracks in the Department:

1. Literature
2. Creative Writing
3. Language and Linguistics

Creative Writing

Students with a special interest in Creative Writing can major in English with an Emphasis in Creative Writing.

In addition to offering courses in poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and playwriting, the Creative Writing program offers visits by distinguished authors, opportunities to work on our literary arts journal, The Madison Review, and a number of contests and prize competitions.
English Course Titles

Here are just a few of our exciting courses:

Black and Latinx in Literature and Visual Cultures
Literature and the Environment: Representing Nature
Literature and Social Justice: Law and Literature
Women and War, 1642-1660
Creative Writing Fiction Workshop
Science Fiction and Fantasy
Discourses of Disability, Antiquity to 1800
Waiting Rooms: Gender, Disability, and the Politic

Find all our course offerings by clicking here!
ENGLISH OPPORTUNITIES

Scholarships
- The English Department is proud to offer numerous forms of support for its undergraduate students and to recognize exceptional accomplishments in various forms of academic and creative work

Honors in the Major
- Students can declare Honors in the major. Honors students work towards a specific set of requirements in addition to the core major requirements

Double Major
- It is easy to complete the English major alongside another major. Half of English majors have a second major, many in STEM fields

Study Abroad
- English majors can easily incorporate study abroad into their undergraduate plan with advanced planning

Internships
- English majors can work with the Career Advisor to identify internship opportunities and support
- Summer internship scholarships are available for English majors

Student Organizations
- Join one of our student organizations: Madison Undergraduate Society for English (MUSE), First GEMS (First-Generation students)

Support
- English majors are supported by both an Undergraduate Advisor and a Career Advisor
What do all these successful people have in common?

They all majored in ENGLISH!!!
What can you do with an English major?

The English major offers excellent preparation for life and work after graduation. According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), employers feel that job candidates today lack writing and communication skills, areas in which English majors excel. Our Career and Internships Advisor works with L&S SuccessWorks to help English majors find internships, job and volunteering opportunities that offer valuable work experiences that set them up for success in a wide range of careers, including:

- Business, industry, management and marketing
- Publishing and journalism
- Professions requiring advanced degrees, such as law, medicine, library science, or teaching
- Advertising and public relations
- Social services and government
- The Arts, entertainment, and museums
Emily Cheng

Majors: English Literature and Molecular and Cell Biology

Being an English major very organically develops one's skills in analysis, critical thinking, close reading, argumentation, and writing. English majors also have the opportunity to become more empathetic and open-minded citizens of the world through the diverse array of texts we study.
What makes the English major unique when compared to others is that there are three tracks that one can take when declaring. I thought when first coming to UW that it would simply be English but I loved that I could tailor my classes to what I was most interested in. In other majors there’s typically only one track and one might not be as interested in all the parts of that major. The English major fosters its undergrads into becoming the best versions of themselves and to this day I have not taken an English class that I did not deeply enjoy.
LEARN MORE!

Undergraduate Advisor:

Erin Polnaszek Boyd
Email: erin.polnaszek.boyd@wisc.edu
- Advice on major and degree requirements
- Assist with course selection and enrollment
- Support and track progress towards graduation
- Determine how study abroad might fit into time at UW
- Navigate campus resources

Career Advisor:

Julia Meuse
Email: meuse@wisc.edu
- 1:1 advising
- Events and workshops
- Internship & job searches
- Resumés & cover letters
- Scholarships for internships
- Interview preparation
- Alumni networking

http://www.english.wisc.edu
If you want to learn more about the English major and what it offers, please give us your name and email address:

Check out this fun video! (1 minute, 86 seconds)