The English major develops knowledge of literature, film, and culture within English, American, and global contexts. Our students learn to read perceptively, think critically and creatively, and write clearly and effectively.

Why UMD

In addition to offering courses covering centuries of literature from around the world, our program includes the following:

1. Creative writing courses (including multiple courses in fiction and poetry writing, and courses on nature writing and the memoir
2. An internship program that draws on our relationships with local business and non-profits
3. Courses on publishing and print culture that are ideal for students interested in pursuing careers in publishing or as writers
4. Numerous award-winning teachers and advisors

Career Possibilities

The English major provides students with both knowledge and a set of skills valued in a wide range of professions. While some UMD English graduates each year go on to teach English or attend graduate school in English, the majority find employment in other fields.

Recent graduates of UMD’s English program have found success in the following fields and roles: teacher, small business owner, editor, producer of plays, health claims representative, sales consultant, office manager, journalist, property manager, bookkeeper, and assistant account executive. Other graduates have have been accepted in various courses of graduate study including law, medicine, business, neuroscience, creative writing, theology, and library science.

Scholarships

Thanks to our generous donors, we are pleased to offer numerous scholarships, including the following:

- Joseph Duncan Scholarship: Established in 1985, the Joseph Duncan Scholarship is awarded to an outstanding junior or senior English major.
- The Slonim Memorial Scholarship: The Slonim Memorial Scholarship is awarded to an outstanding English major who has declared an English major and will be beginning her/his senior year.
- The Ann H. and Alfred Hartley Scholarship: Alfred Hartley created the Ann H. Hartley Scholarship in honor of his wife Ann's lifelong interest in the English Language and Literature. This scholarship is awarded to a full-time English major in her/his junior or senior year with good academic standing.
- The William M. Crockett Scholarship: Established in 2012, the William M. Crockett Scholarship is awarded to an outstanding English major with demonstrated financial need.
- The Mike Lenz Creative Writing Scholarship: Named in honor of former UMD English major Mike Lenz, this scholarship is awarded to the student who submits the best original work of imaginative literature—narrative, dramatic, or lyric—in prose or in verse.
Student Clubs

The Literary Guild - The Literary Guild is a student organization that produces an annual literary magazine called "The Roaring Muse."

Graduate Report

Recent UMD Graduates Job Placement Data & Employers

Here's a sampling of positions English B.A. grads have attained six months to one year after graduation.

- Production Assistant - Heritage Foundation, Washington, DC
- Curatorial Assistant - Hibbing Historical Society, Hibbing, MN
- Middle School English Teacher - Robbinsdale Area Schools, Robbinsdale, MN
- Graduate School - Medieval Studies, University of Connecticut, Storrs
- Law School - University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis

For more data see the English B.A. Graduate Follow-Up Report.
For ideas about English B.A. and other majors visit Career & Internship Services.