

## What Can I Do With an English Degree?

Most college English programs involve courses that emphasize the development of advanced writing skills and/or the study and analysis of written texts. Students who excel in English programs acquire first-rate abilities in written communication and critical thinking, the best preparation for many careers.

### **Business**

Because many firms provide their own training in the specific aspects of their business, for entry-level jobs, corporate leaders often prefer the candidate who can communicate effectively over those with more specialized training. Thus, English majors are competitive for many types of jobs:

- Public relations
- Business management
- Sales
- Corporate communications

### **Law**

Few undergraduate disciplines require students to read and write as much as English, making it a prime pre-law major. Since legal practice stresses written and oral communication combined with critical thinking, the study of English effectively prepares students for law school admission and career success.

### **Teaching**

Majoring in English can be the first step in a number of different teaching careers:

- Teaching college-level writing, literature, literacy, and linguistics
- Teaching high school writing and literature
- Teaching elementary school
- Corporate training
- Teaching/tutoring in private schools and institutions
- Teaching spoken and written English in other countries

### **Journalism**

Because English study helps develop writing and editing skills needed to compose news stories and features, many majors in this field become editors and writers (often freelance), for newspapers, magazines, and book publishers.

### **Technical and Professional Writing and Editing**

Simply stated, prose communication is a staple of success; no organization can thrive and grow without talented writers. In all forms of print and electronic media, the technical and professional writer is the conduit to a wide variety of internal and external audiences. Therefore, business, finance, medicine, marketing, architecture, and government all prize the individual who can communicate effectively about their specialties.