THOMAS HARRIOT COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

English

WHAT CAN I LEARN?
As an English major, you will undertake coursework to develop a theoretical and practical knowledge of the field of English, as well as build upon analytical and writing skills you will use in your future career including:

• How texts, words, and images shape lives, cultures, and societies;
• How literature and film help us grapple with what it means to be human in a complex world;
• How people learn languages; how languages develop; how words and grammar work to create meaning; and how we can help people communicate better;
• How texts—from creative works to business and technical documents to digital and social media content—are created and published;
• How you can persuasively communicate within and outside organizations;
• How smart critical thinkers find, read, process, and analyze data;
• How to use technology proficiently.

DEGREE OPTIONS
Bachelor of Arts: 120 credit hours including:

• 40 hours of general education courses;
• 4 semesters of a foreign language;
• 36 hours in the major; plus a minor or a second major;
• General electives.

You can choose any minor at ECU. The department offers minors in English (for non-majors), Creative Writing, Linguistics, and Film Studies. Examples of other popular minors include Religious Studies, Great Books, History, Philosophy, Psychology, Social science, Political Science, Communication, and Ethnic Studies. You can add a professional certificate in Business and Technical Communication or TESOL.

Questions?
East Carolina University offers an array of support to help you grow and learn from your first day of orientation until your graduation. New Student Orientation, Academic Advising, Pirate to Pirate Mentoring, the University Writing Center, and the Career Center are only a few of the services and centers available to assist you throughout your time on campus.

How to use the map
This map is designed to give you information about your chosen major that will help keep you on track for graduation within 4 years. The introductory sections will help orient you to the “big picture” ideas like the topics and areas of interest inside your major, the kinds of courses you will take, university policies including admissions, and other general topics. The chart on the second page will help you to develop a productive plan to make the most of your 4 years at East Carolina University and prepare yourself for the job market after graduation.

You will want to diversify your experiences, both for success in your degree program and for success outside of school. While coursework is important, it should not be your only focus. The chart below will show you how to incorporate other kinds of experiences that will expand your knowledge of your chosen field and make you a more desirable job candidate.

The map is only a guideline. Remember to speak with your advisor often to learn about new opportunities, clarify concerns, and develop a plan that is right for you.

WORKPLACE SUCCESS

WHAT employers want
Employers frequently cite good communication, writing, and research skills as top criteria when looking to hire new employees. As an English major, you will develop skills like:

1. Creating documents for a variety of audiences and purposes
2. Digital design, editing, and presentation
3. Planning, organizing, and prioritizing work
4. Mining for, processing, and analyzing data
5. Deploying job-related technical knowledge
6. Communicating and influencing others

Keep in mind that your goal at East Carolina is preparing yourself to be marketable in your chosen career field. Taking advantage of the opportunities that are available to you outside of the classroom can help you to grow as a student and emerging professional, while also giving you experience and skills that will be attractive to prospective employers.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST YEAR</th>
<th>SECOND YEAR</th>
<th>THIRD YEAR</th>
<th>FOURTH YEAR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complete the general education requirements and begin to work on your foreign language courses. Also take a 3 s.h. 2000-level English elective (ENGL/FILM/LING).</td>
<td>Continue taking general education courses, and try to complete your foreign language courses during the second year. Also take ENGL 3000 or 3600, ENGL 3010, 3020 or 4340, and a 3 s.h. ENGL/FILM/LING elective.</td>
<td>Concentrate on the core coursework in the major and minor, including 3 s.h. in ENGL/FILM/LING language study, ENGL 3070, 3080, 3090 or 4091, and 6 s.h. of electives in the major.</td>
<td>Complete core coursework in the major and minor, including ENGL 4999 and 12 s.h. of electives in ENGL/FILM/LING, with at least 6 s.h. at the 4000-level.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explore your major and career options in consultation with your advisor. By the end of your first year, you should begin to identify specific internships, other ways to develop the kind of employment experience you want, and/or potential graduate degree programs.</td>
<td>Meet with Career Services often to work on your post-graduation plans. Investigate job-related skills and identify gaps in your résumé so you can address them early. Use your resources available through Career Services. With your advisor, discuss internship opportunities inside and outside the English Department.</td>
<td>Internships, part-time jobs, student leadership positions, and volunteer or community engagement activities can help build your résumé and give you valuable experience. Attend career fairs to explore your interests, network, and to identify opportunities.</td>
<td>Visit Career Services to make post-graduation plans that include employment or graduate school. Investigate job-related skills and identify gaps in your résumé so that you can address those shortcomings before graduation. Use the Occupation Outlook Handbook to identify common skills in your career of interest.</td>
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<td>Emails from the department will let you know about upcoming guest lectures, internship opportunities, and special events. Keep up with the department social calendar to participate in events like Banned Books Week.</td>
<td>Join student organizations that fit your interests, which may include the English Club, ECU Poetry Forum, or the English Honor Program. You can also consider the Student Government Association or the Student Activities Board. For a full list of student organizations, visit Orgsync.</td>
<td>Connect with one of the three student publications to explore local opportunities. Also consider contacting community partners using the Orgsync directory. To build your professional network, join a professional organization like the Modern Language Association, TESOL Inc., or the Society for Technical Communication.</td>
<td>Submit a piece of writing to The Lookout, The Rebel, or another publication. Consider submitting a proposal to present a polished research paper from one of your English courses at a state or regional conference.</td>
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<td>Start taking your foreign language classes to bolster your cross-cultural communication skills. Consider joining student groups with an international or intercultural theme, including Global Ambassador, WorldWise, or the International Student Association.</td>
<td>Work on integrating internationally-oriented classes into your electives and optional major courses. Consider including a minor in foreign language, international studies, or linguistics. Enroll in a Global Understanding course to gain cultural understanding by working with students from other universities abroad, while at ECU.</td>
<td>Finalize your plans to spend a semester studying at an ECU partner institution abroad or select a summer faculty-led study abroad program such as the English department’s London program. Apply for study abroad scholarships.</td>
<td>Work with the Office of Global Affairs and the Career Services to learn how to leverage your study abroad experience to enhance your job placement possibilities. Complete your program by incorporating more internationally-themed courses.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Visit Career Services to learn about their resources. Check out the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Virtual Job Shadow to explore potential careers. Log in to Handshake to update your profile, check out career events, and begin to explore potential employers and job opportunities.</td>
<td>Meet with your Career Counselor to explore your career goals and develop your résumé. Attend a career fair and other employer-related career events to network with potential employers.</td>
<td>Meet with your Career Counselor to discuss post-graduation plans. If needed, research graduate schools and program requirements. Continue to attend career fairs and other employer-related career events.</td>
<td>Meet with your Career Counselor to put your post-graduation plans into action. Refine your résumé, LinkedIn profile, interview prep and professional presence. Complete the Pirate Employment Survey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider an Internship</td>
<td>Consider a Major or Minor Map</td>
<td>Consider a Career Option</td>
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</table>

**GAIN RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

**COMMUNITY CONNECTION**

**THINK GLOBALLY**

**CAREER PREPAREDNESS**

**POST-GRAD OPTIONS**

You have many post-graduation options after completing your degree in English at East Carolina University. Some of our recent graduates have gone on to work in:

- Grant Writing and Fundraising
- Library and Information Science
- Technical Writing in the Private Sector
- K-12 Teaching
- Editing and Publishing
- Law School
- Healthcare
- Journalism
- User Experience and Web Content Design
- Textbook Author
- Public Information Officer

**VISIT US ONLINE**

For more information and an interactive map PDF, visit: [http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/engl/](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/engl/)