



Your Degree What Next: *English*

What can I do with my degree in English Studies or English Literature?

Graduates of the School of English follow a wide range of careers all over the world. While a limited number of these build directly on a specialised knowledge of subjects studied, more commonly it is the general intellectual and personal skills developed which prove to be of most obvious value to employers.

Popular sectors for graduates include publishing, journalism, teaching, advertising, marketing & sales, public relations, TV & radio, creative arts, public service and libraries & information management. Employers who recruit include media organisations, consultancy firms, banks, technology firms, retail, non-profit organisations as well as a wide range of local, small to medium-sized enterprises including start-ups.

Typical job titles and employers of graduates of English include:

Roles

Digital copywriter
Editorial assistant
Journalist– magazine, newspaper
Freelance writer/ author
Film director
Marketing executive
Social media manager

Employers

Storyful
Enterprise Ireland
Jobbio
Google
National Museum (& Library) of Ireland
Department of Education and Science
Upwork– opportunities for freelancers

These are small sample of the types of career paths graduates of your course typically enter. Remember many graduate roles are open to graduates of all disciplines. Further study is a popular choice for English graduates. Some English graduates choose to continue their academic studies by doing a Masters or a PhD, while others choose to study more vocational postgraduate courses in areas such as teaching, journalism, librarianship, psychology, law, health sciences and business. See the Careers Service postgraduate resources for help with finding courses and funding.

Useful Resources

The lists below are useful resources for career / sector specific information:

Professional Bodies and Useful Sites

Publishing Ireland
National Union of Journalists (Ireland and UK)
Library Association of Ireland
ActiveLink & Dochas - non-profit opportunities
Artsmanagement.ie
Marketing Institute of Ireland
Public Relations Institute of Ireland

Resources

gradireland (IE)
Targetjobs (UK)
Prospects (UK)
Vault Career Insider (Global)
Writers' and Artists' Yearbook
Mentoring– from Careers Service & Trinity Alumni
LinkedIn- Trinity College Dublin alumni group

Graduate attributes and transferable skills you can develop at Trinity

You gain a wide range of skills and attributes while at College, through academic study, clubs and societies, voluntary work, student publications and politics, work and other commitments. These are important to recognize as they inform your career decisions and are a critical ingredient in your applications for post-graduate study and jobs. Here are some skills you can gain :

1. Critical Thinking - The most fundamental part of a university education is learning to work on your own and to make independent judgments. You have to discover the information that you need to analyse complex questions and develop your ideas about them and to present your arguments clearly and persuasively.

2. Teamwork - Learning to work as part of a team is an important skill; sharing the workload, agreeing roles and working as a team to develop ideas, analyse information and present a coherent group argument.

3. Independent Research - You will have learnt how to use the library and other complex information resources and co-ordinate information from a wide variety of sources.

4. Logical argumentation - You will know how to bring together facts and arguments in order to answer a specific question or analyse a problem.

5. Time and project management - By working on assignments and studying for exams you will have developed the ability to revise and consolidate your work and know how to extract the essential points from a mass of information. You will also have learned how to manage your own time and to work under pressure of deadlines.

6. Verbal communication - You will know how to present your ideas orally and to contribute constructively to discussions.

7. Written communication - You will have had the opportunity to present your ideas in writing accurately and concisely, using convincing arguments which are based on solid evidence; responding flexibly to different types of questions and expressing your thoughts concisely; carrying out in-depth research on a specialised topic and develop the sustained writing skills needed.

8. Digital Skills - You will have the opportunity of developing your computer skills both from typing up your own essays and papers and from undertaking searches on the web & using databases.

9. Personal Development – You are managing the learning required for a degree and recognising the gaps in your understanding and ensuring that these are addressed in ways that best suit your learning style.

How can the Careers Service help me?

The Careers Advisory Service supports students in exploring their career options and connects students with employers. You can book an appointment with your careers consultant to help you deciding your next step in your career.

Login to MyCareer at www.tcd.ie/careers and book your appointment today.

Contact Us

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