

Alfred University

McComsey Career Development Center

CAREERS IN...ENGLISH

The Field

Students who choose English as a major often wonder what kind of work they will be qualified to do. Consider: employers are always looking for individuals who can think critically, respond intelligently, analyze and synthesize information, and communicate thoughts and ideas, especially in writing. The skills you develop as an English major provide a wide range of career opportunities in areas such as publishing, teaching, advertising, event planning, business management, editing, and public relations. This isn't to say that some additional education or experience won't be needed, but this major will give you a decided advantage in whatever field you choose.

Sample Job Titles

- Public relations assistant
- Management trainee
- Journalist
- Copywriter
- Office manager
- Interpreter/translator
- Columnist
- Information specialist
- Market research analyst
- Proofreader
- Librarian
- Manuscript reader
- Archivist
- Bookstore manager
- Advertising specialist
- Sports information director
- Staff writer
- Author
- Paralegal
- Administrative assistant
- Editor
- Teacher/professor
- Researcher
- Human resources specialist
- Technical writer
- Editorial assistant
- Resume and cover letter developer
- Grant writer
- Publisher
- Reading teacher
- News bureau writer
- Critic

Our Graduates...Where Are They Now?

Within the past few years, graduates have obtained employment as...

Assistant Librarian – Burr & Burton Academy
Writing Specialist – Corning Community College
Service Contracts Coordinator – Symbol Technologies
Marketing Coordinator – Random House
English Teacher – J.E.T. Program (Japan)
Account Manager – Liberty Mutual
Technical Writer – Rho, Inc.
Account Associate – Investor Relations Co.
Teacher – Peace Corps
Staff Writer – Evening Tribune
Production Assistant – Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group

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Actor – National Shakespeare Company
Coordinator, Tutoring Office – Siena College
Assistant Manager – Windmill Video
Editor – American Institute of Physics

...and have gone to graduate school at:

University of Manchester (Museum Studies)
Emerson College (Creative Writing)
Calvin College (Curriculum Theory and Instruction)
Hunter College (Physical Therapy)
Drew University (History)
University at Albany (English Literature)
Alfred University (MBA)
Long Island University (English Literature)
Clemson University (Student Affairs)
Rutgers Law School (Law)
Long Island University (Secondary English Education)

Alumni who graduated several years ago are currently employed as...

Editorial Consultant – Inc. Magazine
Executive Director – Women Rising, Inc.
Regional Underwriting Manager – Zurich Financial Services
President – Y.W.C.A. of Hudson County
Professor of Theater – Alfred University
Attorney – Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Librarian/Archivist – Stock Imagery
Athletic Director – Hyde Park Central School District
Owner/Editor – The Grammar Lady

Get Experience on Campus

Try to get involved in activities or organizations related to your area of interest. Some organizations or clubs through which you can gain relevant experience include:

- Write for the Fiat Lux
- Alfred Review Poiesis
- Student Government
- Kanakadea Yearbook
- Residence Hall Council
- Host a radio show on WALF
- Women's Issues Coalition

Where to go from here?

- Individual career counseling for anything from choosing a major to getting a job
- Saxon JobLink web services (www.alfred.edu/cdc) to view jobs and internships, post a resume and more
- Web resources: an excellent clearing house for several employment and professional links can be found in **The Riley Guide** at <http://www.riley.com/write.html>
- Saxon Career Volunteer network – speak to alumni in your field
- Choices CT computerized program for searching graduate schools