WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN … English

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:
The UNM Course Catalog (2013), “A major in English can lead to professional careers in teaching and literary research, archival and curatorial librarianship, publishing, journalism, advertising and the arts; as well as human resources, sales and marketing, management, and government work. Even when additional qualifications are needed, as in law, an undergraduate major in English is often a distinct advantage.” The UNM Department of English Website (2013) state, “A major in English can lead to professional careers in teaching and literary research, archival and curatorial librarianship, publishing, journalism, advertising and the arts; as well as human resources, sales and marketing, management, and government work. Even when additional qualifications are needed, as in law, an undergraduate major in English is often a distinct advantage.”

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENT:
A bachelor's degree is the minimum formal education required and is excellent preparation for occupations that require excellent writing skills, analytical skills, and interpersonal skills. Some industries, such as counseling or social work, require a graduate degree for entry into the profession. Consult O*Net for more information on the specific KSAs (Knowledge, Skill, Ability) that are required for this career.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO:
The UNM Department of English offers a Bachelor's of Arts, Masters of Arts, and a PhD program as well as an Undergraduate Minor. You can find further information on the UNM Department of English Website.

INDUSTRIES & TARGET EMPLOYERS:
A variety of employers specifically recruit UNM students and alumni. Consult UNM’s Lobo Career Connection for a complete list of employers and current job postings. Speak with a Career Development Facilitator at the UNM Office of Career Services for help with identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

Writing/Editing/Publishing
- Creative writing, Journalism, Freelance, Technical writing, Editing, Advertising, Sales, Circulation, Production, Publicity

Education/Student Affairs
- K-12 teaching/administration, college preparation, counseling/advising, adult/GED education, missionary, University/college teaching/administration, research, advising/counseling, multicultural affairs, residence life, Greek affairs, student activities, admissions officer, affirmative action officer, librarian, archivist, curator

Business/Industry
- Multicultural communication specialist, public relations, employment counselor, management, human resources, training and development, sales representative, advertising, consulting, marketing, entrepreneur, customer service, non-profit director, grants specialist, foundation representative, fundraising director, campaign planner

Communications
- Public opinion analyst, research/technical advisor, public relations, editor, publishing, writing, journalism

Human Services
- Public relations, human resources, community organizer, case worker, social worker, counselor, mental health services, rehabilitation

Law/Politics
- Law, lobbying, government relations, public policy, research, immigration services, Campaign management, elected/appointed civil servants

Performing/Creative Arts
- Artist management, teacher, marketing, musician, performer, playwright
SUGGESTED STRATEGIES:

- Consider specializing your skill set through a double major or minor in another area.
- Gain professional experience in your area of interest through involvement in internships, student employment, Co-ops, and/or volunteer opportunities.
- Shadow professionals in your field of interest to gain a better understanding of their occupation and to build relationships with professional mentors.
- Build your network and get involved on campus through student organizations and campus events. One related student organization is African Studies Leadership Opportunity Team (ALOT). Find more organizations and events at the Student Activities Center website.
- Attend career-related campus events such as career fairs, company information sessions, and/or career workshops.
- Students who are interested in graduate school should maintain a high undergraduate GPA and develop relationships with faculty and community leaders.
- Speak with mentors and faculty about career opportunities.
- Job leads can be found on your department’s website, list-serv, newsletters, and social media sites.

WHERE SHOULD I BEGIN?
USA Jobs (official job site of the federal government) www.usajobs.gov
Idealist.org (comprehensive site of international nonprofit opportunities) http://www.idealist.org/

STATE AND NATIONAL WAGES
Adapted from CareerOneStop (2013):

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<th>Location</th>
<th>10%</th>
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INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:

National Council of Teachers in English http://www.ncte.org/
Magazine Publishers of America http://www.magazine.org/home/
American Copy Editors Society http://www.copydesk.org/
The Writer’s Resource Center http://www.poewar.com/
Society for Technical Communication http://www.stc.org/
Artist Resource http://www.artistresource.org/
The Writer http://www.writermag.com/wrt/
Publishing Central http://www.publishingcentral.com/
Write Jobs http://www.writejobs.com/
News Jobs http://www.newsjobs.net/
National Council for Teachers of English http://www.ncte.org/about/over/careers


REFERENCES