

WHY MAJOR IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE?

Are you keenly interested in language and its relation to communication, society, and culture? Do you wonder about the way the English language works and how it shapes what we say every day? Are you ready to engage in active discussions of issues that affect you, your country, your generation? The UBC English Language Major may be the program for you.

English courses **enhance** writing and presentation skills, reading and analytical competencies, and critical and creative thought. A major in English will enable you to practice and hone these **skills**, giving you a solid foundation in critical analysis, historical knowledge, and contemporary discourse. An English Major will prepare students for any profession in which **linguistic awareness, analytical thinking, and communication** are important.

Taught by world-renowned, prize-winning scholars, in small classes, UBC English language courses cover an amazing variety of topics, from Old English to Canadian English, from the history of dictionaries to the influence of texting, from ancient rhetorical theory to cognitive approaches to language today.

NEW! PILOT PROGRAM - COMBINED MAJOR IN LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

We are now offering a pilot program that combines our language & literatures streams. It provides students with the opportunity to take courses from the full range of Department offerings. The program is an excellent option for students looking for a multi-modal degree combining close linguistic analysis with cultural and historical interpretation. It will be particularly useful for students pursuing in careers in education and media, but it will be of interest to anyone seeking to blend language and literature in their degree.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

english.ubc.ca/undergraduate/major-in-english or the department website: english.ubc.ca

You can also browse all our courses at english.ubc.ca/courses!

WHOM CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Consult with an English Advisor:

see the schedule at english.ubc.ca/undergraduate/minor-in-english/advising/

Undergraduate Program Assistant

english.undergraduate@ubc.ca

Chair of Majors Committee

Professor Alexander Dick
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Associate Head, Undergraduate

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Major in

ENGLISH Language

Faculty of Arts

2017-18



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The English Major Program LANGUAGE

WHAT COURSES DO I TAKE?

Entry Requirements (12 credits)

In order to declare the English Language major students must have completed, preferably in first-year, either Arts One, the Coordinated Arts Program, six credits of first-year English, or WRDS 150 plus three credits of first-year English. In second-year, students hoping to enroll in the language major take an introductory course in language study (ENGL 229) and one course from our 2nd-year literature offerings.

Program Requirements (30 credits)

The program gives students a broad sense of the range and applicability of language study. In third and fourth year, English language majors take a range of courses in the history of the English language, in the sound system and grammar of contemporary English, in discourse analysis, and in rhetorical theory and practice. In fourth-year students take a seminar with a maximum of 16 students, on a particular topic or field of English language study. The rest is up to you! You can also take English literature courses or courses in language study outside the English department (Linguistics, Psychology, Anthropology, Philosophy). Talk to an advisor about how to build a suite of courses in a particular area that fits your interests and focus.

CAN A MAJOR IN ENGLISH HELP TO START MY CAREER?

English degrees are a hot commodity on the job market. Knowing how and why media and communication work can give you a huge advantage in today's rapidly-changing work-world. Employers know that only applicants with skills in critical thinking and writing and who understand the power of language and media are ready for its challenges. English grads are teachers, lawyers, journalists, publishers, actors, entrepreneurs, consultants, even Prime Ministers.

"Heads up, business majors: Employers are newly hot on the trail of hires with liberal arts and humanities degrees."

Wall Street Journal

"The Best Argument for Studying English? The Employment Numbers... Only people who don't understand statistics would question the value of an English degree."

The Atlantic

"English Majors are the Hot New Hires"

Open Forum

CAN I COMBINE MY PROGRAM WITH AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE MAJOR?

The English Language Major productively complements a number of program in Arts and Science including psychology, sociology, human biology, environmental studies, history, anthropology, cognitive science, and visual art. Talk to an advisor about how you might develop a double major that will meet your goals and interests.

HOW DO I DECLARE A MAJOR IN ENGLISH?

As of 2016, there is no minimum average for admission and no formal application is necessary. Students may declare the English Major once they have met second-year English course requirements and achieve third-year standing. You may declare the Major simply by sending an email, stating your intent, to the English department Undergraduate Program Assistant at English.undergraduate@ubc.ca with the subject line: DECLARING ENGLISH MAJOR. Include your full name and student number.