ENGLISH

English major · English minor · Professional writing minor

Immerse yourself in literature, history and the human condition as a Franklin College English major. Work alongside the department’s dedicated teacher-scholars as you hone a diverse set of reading, writing and critical thinking skills in one of the college’s most exciting intellectual communities.

THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE
Small class sizes and lifelong student-faculty mentorships

The Franklin College English program is differentiated by its small class sizes, which empower students to build personal relationships with their peers and lifelong mentorships with the department’s award-winning faculty. This approach fosters a close-knit community, giving students the freedom to express new ideas and examine the depths of their intellect and creativity. While faculty members share with students their expertise in, and enthusiasm for, literature in a variety of genres, periods and cultures, every English major investigates a topic of academic interest via independent research. Previous majors have presented their research at national literature conferences. Recent research topics include:

- Sociolinguistic study of hedging in the college classroom
- Queer theory applied to Octavia Butler's science fiction short stories
- The Chicago Black Renaissance, which culminated in archival research in Chicago
OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Professional experience and publication opportunities

Throughout the semester, the department orchestrates a variety of on- and off-campus events, including film screenings, trips to visit historic literary sites, open mic nights and a reading series through which writers from around the country come to campus for formal readings. Visiting writers include National Book Award winner Terrance Hayes and Emily Wilson, the first female translator of *The Odyssey*.

To ensure their career readiness, all English majors take a professional development course, complete an internship and work on a communications consulting project for a local nonprofit organization. Recent internships include:

- Working on a professional film set
- Writing for a web design firm
- Teaching English as a second language
- Event planning
- Developing a literacy program
- Completing archival work for an academic library

Majors can also gain professional experience without leaving campus by contributing work to the *Apogee*, the college's student-run literary journal, and consulting in The Write Place, the college's writing center. Regular alumni panels connect students to alumni working across various fields, helping majors build their professional networks and explore career opportunities.

POST-GRADUATION

Limitless professional applications

Employers in every industry are eager to hire great communicators and critical thinkers, two skills English majors bring to any role or company. English majors graduate prepared to excel in both graduate school and any number of industries. Recent alumni have gone on to pursue:

- **Business**: Marketing, communications, sales, social media management, project management, banking
- **Nonprofits**: Creative and performing arts, philanthropy, management, grant writing
- **Writing**: Creative writing, technical writing, journalism, copyediting
- **Education**: Elementary, secondary and higher education
- **Graduate school**: English, business, law, library science, divinity

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- **Double major**: English majors frequently add on a secondary major to create an interdisciplinary skill set. Common additional majors include creative writing, French, Spanish, history, psychology and multimedia journalism.
- **Supplementary minor**: Many English majors pursue a minor to explore additional areas of interest, including accounting, business and environmental science.
- **Department contact information**: Read more about the program at [www.FranklinCollege.edu/English](http://www.FranklinCollege.edu/English) or contact Associate Professor of English Jennifer Smith, Ph.D., directly at 317.738.8236 or jsmith@FranklinCollege.edu.