Students in English & Communication will learn to read and think critically, write with the intent to move audiences, engage with literature, and develop perspectives and practices for effective communication across all media. Faculty come from across the country and around the world, bringing diverse experiences and dedication to the department and their courses.

Available paths include:

- Communication (BA)
- English (BA)
- English (BA) with Literature & Criticism Concentration
- English (BA) with Creative & Professional Writing Concentration
- Communication (Minor)
- Literature and Criticism (Minor)
- Creative Writing (Minor)
- Writing, Rhetoric & Communication (Minor)

Skills Developed

English majors engage with curriculum across the department in literature and writing and may choose concentrations to focus their studies in either Literature & Criticism or in Creative & Professional Writing. Students who choose the Literature and Criticism track develop analytical skills by considering literary texts, languages, and the creation of meaning. Those choosing the Creative & Professional Writing track develop professional and creative writing skills across a spectrum of genres, including but not limited to: journalism, public relations, technical writing, speechwriting, web authoring, fiction, and creative nonfiction.

Communication majors develop foundational skills in understanding and producing effective communication across contexts, genres and media. In their elective studies, Communication majors can develop foci in one of our four areas: Technical communication, Strategic communication, Multimodal communication, or Journalism.

Curriculum overview

Degree-specific foundations in Literary studies, Creative writing, Rhetorical studies, and Communication studies lay the groundwork for advanced curriculum from among electives that match student interests. Literary studies spans periods and genres, with a diverse range of offerings and student-defined opportunities. Creative and Professional writing curriculum creates spaces for student invention and for developing professional practices for contemporary publishing and work. Communication studies connects leading edge perspectives with kills and practices in designing, writing and speaking that can be deployed across digital and social media and all professional practices.

Top Jobs

- Writers and Authors (median salary $61,820)
- Technical Writers (median salary $70,930)
- High School English Teachers (median salary $59,170)
- Content Managers (average salary $59,985)
- Reporters (median salary $40,910)
- Editors (median salary $58,210)
- Public Relations Specialists (median salary $59,300)
- Copywriters (average salary $53,060)
- Technical Writers (average salary $61,075)
- Medical Writers (average salary $73,585)

Graduate School Placements

- Brown University
- Harvard Kennedy School
- Holy Names University
- University of Pennsylvania

Internship Sites

- Akamai Technologies
- Zeitirion Theater
- Quincy Patriot Ledger
- NYE Laboratories
- Spinner Publications
- Teaching internships with professors
- The Public's Radio

Career Placements

- American Conservatory Theatre
- Biomedical Advancement Communications
- Boston.com
- Disney ABC Television Group
- Google
- Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School
- The Madison Square Garden Company
- WCVB-TV
- Yahoo! Sports

More Info

- Accelerated Degree Programs
- Graduate Degree or Certificate in Professional Writing and Communication
- Teacher Preparation 4+1 Program
- Honors College
- Publish your work in Corridors, Dart, Temper or The Torch
- Join the Literary Society
- Pursue internships in your discipline

umassd.edu/programs/english/