

# English Literature

## **Overview**

English Literature is a non-vocational course, which means that it is not geared towards a particular area of work. The skills and knowledge you’ll develop whilst studying will be applicable and transferable to a wide range of roles and sectors, even when the job advert doesn’t specify that an English degree is required. This guide introduces you to opportunities/sectors popular with students studying this subject.

## **Roles**

Each job title links through to a broad job description, salary and conditions, entry requirements, typical recruiters, and links to further useful information.

* [Academic Librarian](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/academic-librarian)
* [Archivist](https://www.allaboutcareers.com/careers/job-profile/archivist)
* [Bookseller](https://www.allaboutcareers.com/careers/job-profile/bookseller)
* [Editorial Assistant](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/editorial-assistant)
* [Government Research Officer](https://www.allaboutcareers.com/careers/job-profile/government-research-officer)
* [Journalist](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/newspaper-journalist)
* [Marketing Executive](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/marketing-executive)
* [Museum Education Officer](https://www.allaboutcareers.com/careers/job-profile/museum-education-officer)
* [Press Officer](https://www.allaboutcareers.com/careers/job-profile/press-officer)
* [Project Manager](https://www.allaboutcareers.com/careers/job-profile/project-manager)
* [Secondary School Teacher](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/secondary-school-teacher)
* [Social Media Manager](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/social-media-manager)

You can view additional job roles by using the [Prospects](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/english) and [Indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/finding-a-job/english-literature-jobs) websites.

## **Building Experience**

As English is a non-vocational course, the skills that you are able to develop outside of your degree are also vital when thinking about your future. During your time at university, you should consider taking part in some of the following opportunities, which will help to boost your future career prospects.

* Build work experience for example through [Campus Jobs](https://www.reading.ac.uk/essentials/Campus-Jobs) or [securing an internship](https://www.ratemyplacement.co.uk/)
* Find volunteering opportunities such as [Reading Voluntary Action](http://rva.org.uk/) and [Reading Students' Union](https://readingsu.co.uk/student-opportunities/volunteering-and-fundraising)
* Apply for a paid research internship [UROP](https://www.reading.ac.uk/essentials/Careers/Gaining-experience/UROP) (penultimate year students only)
* Apply for the [Reading Internship Scheme](https://www.reading.ac.uk/essentials/Careers/Gaining-experience/RIS) – these are paid summer opportunities with local employers which are exclusive to UoR students. These opportunities, and many others are advertised on [My Jobs Online](https://reading.targetconnect.net/home.html)
* Get a [Thrive mentor](https://www.reading.ac.uk/essentials/Careers/Advice-and-development/Mentoring/THRIVE) and build a relationship with a professional (penultimate year students only)
* Get involved in a society: look at the full list of [societies](https://readingsu.co.uk/student-opportunities/societies) for one aligned to your interests
* If you are thinking about teaching as a possible career, you could consider volunteering for the University’s [Students in Schools](https://www.reading.ac.uk/essentials/Opportunities/Volunteering/Students-in-Schools) scheme.

## **Finding Opportunities**

### Arts, Charity, and Heritage

[National Museum Directors’ Council](https://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk/jobs/) | [Museum Jobs](http://www.museumjobs.com/) | [English Heritage](https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/about-us/jobs/) | [National Trust](https://www.nationaltrustjobs.org.uk/) | [Arts Council](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/) | [Arts Jobs](http://www.artsjobs.org.uk/) | [Arts Hub](https://www.artshub.co.uk/jobs/) | [Charity Choice](https://www.charitychoice.co.uk/) | [Charity Job](https://www.charityjob.co.uk/) | [Third Sector Jobs](https://www.thirdsector.co.uk/)

### Marketing and Media

[The Chartered Institute of Marketing](https://www.cim.co.uk/) | [Marketing Week](https://jobs.marketingweek.com/) | [Simply Marketing Jobs](https://www.simplymarketingjobs.co.uk/) | [Hold the Front Page](https://www.holdthefrontpage.co.uk/) | [Media Info](https://media.info/uk) | [National Council for the Training of Journalists](http://www.nctj.com/) | [Bubble Jobs](https://www.bubble-jobs.co.uk/) | [Campaign](https://www.campaignlive.co.uk/)

### Publishing

[The Society of Young Publishers](https://thesyp.org.uk/) | [The Publishers Association](https://www.publishers.org.uk/) | [The Bookseller](https://jobs.thebookseller.com/) | [Book Careers](https://www.bookcareers.com/)

### Further Study/Research

[University of Reading](https://www.reading.ac.uk/ready-to-study/study/postgraduate-study.aspx) | [Find a Masters](https://www.findamasters.com/) | [Find a PhD](https://www.findaphd.com/)

### Graduate Jobs

[prospects](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/).ac.uk | [targetjobs](https://targetjobs.co.uk/).co.uk | [milkround](https://www.milkround.com/).com | [ratemyplacement](https://www.ratemyplacement.co.uk/).co.uk | [gradcracker](https://www.gradcracker.com/search/civil-building/environment-and-sustainability-jobs).com

## **Exploring Further**

There are many professional bodies associated with these areas which can provide useful information for example [the English Association](https://englishassociation.ac.uk/), [The National Association for the Teaching of English](https://www.nate.org.uk/) and [The Royal Society of Literature](https://rsliterature.org/).

If you’re thinking of looking further afield but aren’t sure where to start, why not [book an appointment](https://www.reading.ac.uk/essentials/Careers/Advice-and-development/MyJobsOnline) with one of our Careers Consultants? Remember, graduates can use the Careers Centre for up to two years after they graduate.

Explore our [Careers Blog](https://blogs.reading.ac.uk/careers/) for more industry guidance and useful careers advice!