

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

Here are some examples of 'typical' jobs that are pursued by those studying an English Literature degree. The following profiles are available on Prospects (www.prospects.ac.uk).

- [Academic Librarian](#)
- [Archivist](#)
- [Bookseller](#)
- [Editorial Assistant](#)
- [Government Research Officer](#)
- [Journalist](#)
- [Marketing Executive](#)
- [Museum Education Officer](#)
- [Press Officer](#)
- [Project Manager](#)
- [Secondary School Teacher](#)
- [Social Media Manager](#)

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:

- Complete an [academic placement](#) in a module as part of your degree
- [Secure an internship](#)/work experience in a sector that interests you – e.g. media, museums etc.
- Gain some experience with the [student media channels](#): The Spark, Junction 11
- Apply for a paid research internship on campus through [UROP](#) (penultimate year students only)
- Apply for the [Reading Internship Scheme](#) – paid summer opportunities with local employers
- Get a [Thrive mentor](#) and build a relationship with a professional (penultimate year students only)
- Volunteer with a local organisation – find opportunities through [RUSU](#) or [Reading Voluntary Action](#)
- Take on a position of responsibility – e.g. [course rep](#), committee position of [sports club or society](#)
- Interested in teaching or using your language skills? Volunteer through [Students in Schools](#)
- Want to be more entrepreneurial? Visit the [Henley Centre for Entrepreneurship!](#)
- And, of course, [complete the RED Award](#) with these extra-curricular activities that you will complete!

Finding Opportunities

Here are some starting points for popular sectors relating your degree where you can begin your job search:

Arts, Charity and Heritage

- [National Museum Directors' Council](#) | [Museum Jobs](#) | [English Heritage](#)
- [National Trust](#) | [Arts Council](#) | [Arts Culture Media Jobs](#) | [Arts Jobs](#) | [Arts Hub](#)
- [Charity Choice](#) | [Charity Job](#) | [Third Sector Jobs](#)

Marketing and Media

- [The Chartered Institute of Marketing](#) | [Marketing Week](#) | [Simply Marketing Jobs](#)
- [Hold the Front Page](#) | [Media Info](#) | [National Council for the Training of Journalists](#)
- [Bubble Jobs](#) | [Campaign](#) | [MAD jobs](#)

Publishing

- [The Society of Young Publishers](#)
- [The Publishers Association](#)
- [The Bookseller](#) | [Book Careers](#)

Exploring Further

The skills and knowledge you'll develop in your degree will be valuable in a wide range of roles and sectors. Over 85% of graduate recruiters will recruit students from any discipline, so it is useful to also consider alternative routes. Here are some links to further information about available opportunities:

Creative

- [Creative Choices](#) | [Creative Pool](#) | [Screen Skills](#)

Education

- [Get Into Teaching](#) | [TEFL](#) | [British Council](#)

Law

- [Law Careers](#) | [All About Law](#) | [The Lawyer Portal](#)

Public Sector

- [Civil Service Jobs](#) | [Local Government Jobs](#) | [Intelligence Services](#)

General

- [Prospects](#) | [Targets Jobs](#) | [Milkround](#) | [Rate My Placement](#)

Graduate Schemes

- [Civil Service](#) | [National Government Development Programme](#) | [Charity Works](#) | [Teach First](#)

Further Study

- [University of Reading](#) | [Find a Masters](#) | [Find a PhD](#)

If you still have some questions or you aren't sure where to start, why not [book an appointment](#) with one of our Careers Consultants? You can also visit [our website](#) and attend our Careers Events and Fairs.

