Succeed in the workplace

What employers want
Take the time to think about the unique skills you have developed at Queen's, starting with the skills list here for ideas. Explaining your strengths with compelling examples will be important for applications to employers and further education. For help, check out the Career Services skills workshop.

What can I learn studying ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE?
- Communication skills to present ideas clearly and persuasively, orally and in writing
- Problem solving to approach a complex topic systematically
- Textual analysis to understand how texts create meaning and emotional impact
- Logical thinking to construct an argument for maximum persuasiveness, and use evidence appropriately
- Research to rapidly gain the knowledge you need to support your argument
- History of ideas to understand how cultural forms and notions of value change in time
- Literary theory to explore some of the ways in which literature has been defined, evaluated, and used by different thinkers
- Cultural study to understand the differences between high and low cultural forms, and their function in society throughout history
- Resource and time management

Get to know ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Our Department of English Language and Literature is one of the oldest departments of literature in Canada, dating back to 1888, but it also deals with contemporary writing and new media such as graphic novels.

The English curriculum is structured to ensure that in each year of your program you will be in one class small enough to let you feel comfortable making your voice heard and where you won't get lost in the crowd. Our first-year lecture is supported with tutorials to help ease the transition from high school to university level writing and analysis; our second-year seminars allow you to study in-depth a single major work or cluster of related works. Our Creative Writing Program, led by nationally recognized writer/mentors Carolyn Smart and Armand Ruffo, offers workshops and collaborative response to your own work to help you hone your craft. This intensive classroom experience is enhanced by our In-Residence program which allows all creative writers, not just those in creative writing courses, to consult with a professional writer who offers advice and mentorship to our students.

A Common START
Students in our Faculty are admitted into Arts, Science or Computing but the focus is on a common first year. Through self-exploration, and while you settle into university life, you have the opportunity to work with our advisors and faculty to discover your real interests and identify opportunities for success. Sometimes that discovery happens fairly quickly, and for other students it takes some work and time before the “ah-ha!” happens – either way your first year at Queen’s will be a great experience.

That is a degree from Queen’s.
**English Language and Literature MAJOR MAP**

**1ST YEAR**
In first year take ENGL 100. Each Plan will have at least one required first year course, including minors. It is important to take a variety of first-year courses to keep as many pathways open as possible for you going into second year. For details see the Arts and Science Academic Calendar.

Want to enhance your degree? Consider a certificate in Academic Writing or explore other certificates available.

**2ND YEAR**
In second year take core courses: ENGL 200 (all plans). ENGL 290 (Seminar for Majors and Medials only). Majors take additional 9.9-12.0 ENGL units, medials take additional 3.9 ENGL units. See departmental website for full details.

Need help mapping all of your core, option, supporting and elective courses (including those not listed above) to make sure you will have what you need to complete your degree? Use the Course Mapping Tool on the Arts and Science website.

**3RD YEAR**
Try to complete all major requirements/core courses:
- Majors: 18.0 300-level ENGL units in three historical distribution groups. Medials: 12.0 300-level ENGL units in two historical distribution groups. Check your Academic Requirements Report in SOLUS to make sure you are on track to meet all of your requirements.

**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
Complete all remaining requirements for your plan (including 15.0 400-level ENGL units).

By fourth year you should be working on your remaining core, option, and elective courses. Make sure to map your minor and / or certificate(s) as well.

Apply to graduate in SOLUS.

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**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**

**GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**
Get involved in student publications, such as the Queen’s Journal, the Queen’s Feminist Review, the Ultraviolet, or Queen’s Almanac. The website explains opportunities at CFRC and QTV! If you are interested in creative writing courses, work on your portfolio.

See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen’s Get Involved page for more ideas.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**
Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations, such as Frontier College/Queen’s Students for Literacy or Kingston WriterFest.

Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC).

Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as Soul Food and the Inquire publication.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**

The Queen’s University International Centre is your first stop to learn how to internationalize your degree or to leverage your existing cross-cultural experience. Speak to a QUIC advisor or get involved in their programs, events and training opportunities.

Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to study abroad. Apply in January for a 3-year exchange through your Faculty’s International Office, and consult with the US Chair regarding transfer credits.

If interested, take English courses for a summer or a semester at our Castle in England.

Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your language skills. Check QUIC’s resources for ideas to go abroad, and volunteer or attend one of their events.

Consider applying to do a 12-16 month QUIP internship between your third and fourth year. Consider entrepreneurial opportunities via programs like the Queen’s Innovation Connector Summer Initiative (QICSI).

Consider joining professional associations like the Editors’ Association of Canada (EAC). Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in English.

**CONSIDER A 12-16 MONTH QUIP INTERNSHIP**

Apply to jobs or future education, or make plans for other adventures. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, interviews, grad school applications, or other decisions.

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Where could I go after graduation?
- Advertising
- Archives
- Broadcasting - radio and T.V.
- Business writing
- Communications
- Consulting
- Consumer services
- Copyright law
- Copywriting
- Corporate training/development
- Diplomatic service
- Editing
- Education (including English as a second language)
- Foreign service
- Human resources
- Immigration services
- Journalism
- Libraries
- Linguistics
- Marketing
- Media – electronic and print
- Public service and administration
- Public relations
- Publishing
- Social work
- Speech and language therapy
- Technical writing
- Translation
- Travel and tourism

Some careers may require additional training.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormaps.html for the online version with links!