Careers in English

The skills you gain through studying English are marketable in most job sectors.

Job options

Jobs directly related to studying English include:

• Digital copywriter

As a digital copywriter you'll produce the written content for webpages, either working in an employed position or as a freelancer.

Editorial assistant

An editorial assistant provides support at all stages of the publication of:

- books
- journals
- magazines
- online material
- publicity materials.

• English as a foreign language teacher

As an EFL teacher, you'll use a range of course books and materials, plus a variety of audiovisual aids, to encourage students to communicate with each other using the structures and vocabulary they've learnt and to improve the four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Lexicographer

As a lexicographer, you'll search specialist databases comprising thousands of pieces of language from a range of sources, including literature, newspapers, online journals, blogs, discussion groups and transcripts of television and radio (known as the 'corpus'), for evidence of meanings and usages of a word or phrase.

Magazine journalist

Magazine journalists research and write news articles and features for a variety of publications, usually periodicals, including:

- consumer titles which cover both general interest and specialist areas
- customer magazines from shops, supermarkets, etc
- trade publications, also known as business-to-business (B2B) magazines.

Newspaper journalist

Newspaper journalists research and write stories for national, regional and local press.

• Publishing copy-editor

As a copy-editor or proofreader you'll ensure that material is clear, consistent, complete and credible, and that text is well written, grammatically correct and accessible.

• Secondary School teacher

As a secondary school teacher you'll teach pupils aged 11 to 18. Specialising in a particular subject, you'll plan, teach and assess lessons in line with curriculum objectives.

Web content manager

Web content managers ensure that the content of a website is well-structured and easy to find and that it meets the needs of its users by covering all necessary topics and being up to date and accurate.

Talent agent

As a talent agent, you'll secure work and fair contracts and conditions for people in the entertainment industries.

Writer

As a writer, you'll be involved in the creation and development of works of fiction and non-fiction.

Jobs where your degree would be useful include:

• Academic librarian

As an academic librarian you'll manage, organise, evaluate and disseminate information, providing support to members of an academic community including students, researchers and lecturing staff.

Advertising copywriter

As an advertising copywriter, you'll work alongside an art director within the creative department of an advertising, media or full-service agency. You'll work from client briefs to conceive, develop and produce effective advertising campaigns.

Arts administrator

As an arts administrator, you'll manage activities and projects provided by a range of organisations in the arts sector.

• Education consultant

Education consultants use their experience in learning, teaching, and assessment to help develop the curriculum, or work with organisations and learners to identify and support their specialist needs.

• Information officer

As an information officer you'll work with electronic information - especially online databases content management systems, open access and digital resources - and traditional library materials.

Learning mentor

As a learning mentor, you'll work closely with individuals who are struggling with social, emotional or behavioural problems that affect their ability to learn.

Marking executive

As a marketing executive, you'll contribute to and develop integrated marketing campaigns to promote a product, service or idea.

Media researcher

As a programme researcher, you'll provide support to the producer and production team of a television, radio, film or online project. You'll source contacts and contributors for programmes, as well as supply your own ideas and work on location.

PPC specialist

Pay-per-click (PPC) is the term used to refer to paid advertising on the internet, usually though Google AdWords or Bing Ads. Advertisers pay a fee each time one of their adverts is clicked. PPC specialists use their expertise to advise on how to maximise the results of a PPC campaign.

Primary School teacher

As a primary school teacher, you'll develop schemes of work and lesson plans in line with curriculum objectives. You'll facilitate learning by establishing a relationship with pupils, keeping your learning resources organised and creating a positive learning environment in the classroom.

• Private tutor

As a private tutor, you'll provide students with tailored tuition and may offer specialist skills, methods or approaches to support individual learning needs.

Public relations officer

A career in public relations (PR) involves using all forms of media and communication to build, maintain and manage the reputation of your clients.

Records manager

As a records manager you'll provide access to accurate records for a range of operational and strategic purposes, and will ensure that legal obligations for the creation and retention of records are met.

Social media manager

Your overall purpose as a social media manager will be to lead an organisation's social media strategy in order to boost visibility and customer and client engagement.