

Options with a degree in English Literature

What skills will you develop?

English Literature graduates are able to:

- think analytically and creatively when approaching a problem
- work with an open mind, move beyond boundaries and experiment with different ideas
- work independently and manage their time and workloads effectively to set deadlines
- put forward ideas and arguments in a concise manner, both verbally and in writing
- gather, investigate and assess material
- synthesise facts, ideas and arguments
- base conclusions on research
- accept, reflect on criticism and learn from feedback
- organise material in a logical and coherent way

These are just a sample of jobs where an English Literature degree would be a useful background or relevant first step prior to further training or study.

- Academic librarian
- Administration
- Advertising account executive
- Advertising copywriter
- Broadcast journalist
- Broadcast presenter
- Curatorial researcher
- Digital copywriter
- Editorial assistant
- English as a foreign language teacher
- Higher Education Lecturer
- Information officer
- Lexicographer
- Magazine journalist
- Newspaper journalist
- Primary school teacher
- Public relations officer
- Publishing copy-editor/proof-reader
- Radio/TV producer
- Script reader
- Secondary school teacher
- Social media manager
- TV/Radio researcher
- Writer

Where are recent English Literature graduates now working?

- Account Executive, Battenhall
- Bookseller, Waterstones
- Brantwood
- Freelance ghost writer/editor
- Health and Safety Manager, West Yorkshire Windows
- Learning Support Worker, Carlisle College
- Marketing Assistant, Dodd& Co
- Outdoor Instructor, Robin Wood Activity Instructor
- Personal Assistant, Co-operative Insurance
- Reporter, DNG Media
- Teacher, The Kingsway Academy
- The Wordsworth Trust

What other career options are there?

Many employers seek graduates with a good degree (usually a 2.2 or higher), and over 80% of employers don't have a preference for the subject studied. These are some sectors you could also consider. Some of these will involve further study or training:

- Accountancy
- Administration
- Advertising
- Banking
- Charity and voluntary work
- Civil Service
- Events management
- Finance
- Hospitality
- HR
- Insurance
- Law
- Local government
- Management
- Marketing
- Public Relations
- Politics
- Recruitment
- Sales and retail
- Tourism

For more information about different sectors and job roles, including career-planning tools, the following websites are helpful:

[Prospects](#)

[Targetjobs](#)

[National Careers Service](#)

[Allaboutcareers](#)

What help is available from the University of Cumbria?

The Careers and Employability Service can support you with your career planning throughout your time at university, and for up to three years after you graduate. During this time, you can access our career hub, [My Career Enriched](#), which enables you to:

- search for graduate jobs, part-time work, work experience, placements and paid internships
- book one-to-one advice and guidance appointments
- book a practice interview
- book onto employability events
- CV/application review service

We also offer practical workshops on a range of employability topics, as well as advice and information about further study.

Students with a disability or health condition can request information and advice on finding disability confident employers, how to declare a disability, applying for work, and requesting adjustments in the recruitment process. Access our range of careers information and resources on My.Cumbria.ac.uk

Other useful sources of advice:

- [Targetpostgrad](#)
- [FindAMasters](#)
- [Creative Skillset](#)
- [The Chartered Institute of Journalists](#)
- [Society for Editors and Proof-readers](#)
- [Community Media Association](#)
- [The British Association of Journalists](#)
- [The Society of Authors](#)
- [The Bookseller](#)
- [Creative Choices](#)

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