

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH



CAMERON
UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENTAL DESCRIPTION

The Department of Communication, English and Foreign Languages is part of Cameron University's School of Arts and Sciences. The department offers baccalaureate degree programs in Communication, Journalism and Media Production, English, English Education and International Languages and delivers a wide array of courses in English and world literatures, creative writing, linguistics, and world languages. Graduates of Cameron go on to careers in business, law, teaching, instructional technology and international relations.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The English program offers financial assistance in the form of tuition waivers and two endowed scholarships: the Jesse Mae Hines Scholarship and the Lawton Shakespeare Club Scholarship. Details about the application process and deadlines are available from the Department of Communication, English and Foreign Languages. The department also offers work study support to English majors who tutor for the Center for Writers, the university's writing lab.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The question that prospective English majors most often ask is "What can I do with an English major?" Students are often surprised to learn that more than half of the people who graduate with an English degree pursue careers other than teaching. Many graduate schools consider an English degree to be the best preparation for graduate studies in business, law, psychology, and many other areas.

In addition, many companies actively seek English majors because they have the kind of broad background that companies want in their managers. English majors are flexible, creative, resourceful in solving problems, and they

have the ability to read and think critically, to analyze and make sound judgments, and to communicate with others. Some of the many careers students can pursue as an English major are freelance writing, editing, junior high or high school teaching, college instruction, public relations, financial management, insurance, marketing, journalism, and instructional design.

MAJOR DESCRIPTION

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in English is a broad based liberal arts degree that exposes students to American, English, and world literatures, the history and use of the English language, and the art of creative writing. Students take a combination of courses in literature, writing, and English grammar and linguistics. The 45-hour major emphasizes the development of critical reading and thinking skills, mastery of written and oral expression, and knowledge of literary forms and traditions.

CONCENTRATIONS

Literature

This concentration emphasizes the study of literature and rhetoric and includes courses in literary history, world literatures, literary genres, the history of the English language, and advanced composition and rhetoric. It is designed to help students prepare for graduate school, law school, and careers in fields such as public relations, instructional technology, marketing, and business.

Creative Writing

This concentration emphasizes the writing of fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction, allowing students to pursue their own creative interests. It is designed to help students prepare for MFA programs and for careers in fields such as public relations, advertising, editing, and technical writing.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1 HOW DO I KNOW IF THE ENGLISH MAJOR IS RIGHT FOR ME?

If you like to read, if you like to think about and discuss what you have read, or if you enjoy writing and creating your own works of fiction, non-fiction, or poetry, the English major is right for you. English is also a good choice if you are looking to improve your critical thinking and communication skills.

2 WHAT OPPORTUNITIES CAN THE ENGLISH MAJOR OFFER TO PREPARE ME FOR MY CAREER?

In addition to offering courses in literature, creative writing, and the English language, the English program provides students with the opportunity to participate in activities designed to prepare them for careers including editing and teaching. Majors may elect to tutor in the Writing Center or to help produce the Cameron Gold Mine. In addition, the program's capstone course gives students the chance to research career options and provides guidance in preparing job search materials. Qualified students may also join Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honor Society.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Office of Admissions

580-581-2289

admissions@cameron.edu



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WWW.CAMERON.EDU



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