Bachelor of Arts in English

ABOUT THE B.A. IN ENGLISH
To succeed in any professional environment, you need to think critically and communicate effectively. In the B.A. in English program at St. John’s University, you take courses with distinguished faculty members across the major divisions of literary and composition studies. You develop your cultural and literary understanding, learn to analyze texts, form cogent arguments, and become a clear and effective writer.

At St. John’s, we encourage you to broaden the scope of your studies by pursuing a minor or double major. The B.A. in English is an excellent major from which to explore other disciplines, since it provides you with ways of thinking and communicating that will contribute to your success in those fields. In your second year, you can also apply for one of the University’s combined degree English programs in order to earn both your bachelor’s and master’s degrees in five years of full-time study.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A B.A. IN ENGLISH?
What can’t you do with a B.A. in English? The program is excellent preparation for further professional or academic training in just about any field. Law schools look to recruit English majors because of their ability to write well and think rigorously. Businesses and marketing firms also look for candidates with English degrees because they need effective writers to communicate with potential clients. Some other fields where English bachelor’s degree-holders may find opportunities include publishing, media and journalism, education, and nonprofit. You may also go on to pursue graduate study in English and other disciplines.
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR
Welcome to the English Department! A degree in English from St. John’s enables you to read deeply, write effectively, and engage critically with local, national, and global issues. The English major and minor prepare you for a complex and ever-changing world.

We hold many events where faculty and students gather and form an engaged community. Faculty in the English Department offer expertise in fields from Medieval and Early Modern to Victorian and Modernist literature, and from early American to contemporary fiction and poetry. We also boast specialists in Caribbean literature; composition and rhetoric; critical race, ethnic, and class studies; performance studies; film; media studies; digital humanities; critical theory; women's, gender, and sexuality studies; and creative writing.

English Department graduates enter careers in law, business, advertising, publishing, digital media, nonprofit organizations, and teaching, among many others, and pursue graduate degrees in a variety of fields. Our outstanding faculty is always ready to offer guidance and assistance. We hope you decide to join us for a great adventure.

Jennifer Travis, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of English
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RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
In addition to the valuable skills you develop as an English major, you are also able to acquire real-world internship experience. The Department of English offers assistance with finding internship opportunities and University Career Services provides guidance with résumé and cover letter workshops, interview training, and building your network of professional connections.

You can combine your English degree with a double major or minor in another subject. You can also apply for a combined B.A./M.A. in English or a B.A./M.B.A. in English and Business Administration, earning both the bachelor’s and master’s degrees in five years of full-time study.

We encourage you to add an international, experiential dimension to your study of English through St. John’s Global Studies opportunities. These programs include Discover the World: Europe, through which you study in three countries in just one semester, as well as semester-length study on the Rome Campus and at the Paris location. For more information about study abroad, please visit stjohns.edu/global.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID
St. John’s University strives to place an outstanding higher education within the financial reach of all qualified applicants. Each academic year, the Office of Student Financial Services awards approximately $400 million in aid to students who demonstrate financial need. The Office of Undergraduate Admission also awards highly competitive academic scholarships.

For more information about scholarships and financial aid, please visit stjohns.edu/services/financial.