Why should I major in English at HPU?

- HPU English graduates reflect the national trend in being suited for a variety of careers. Their critical thinking and communication skills enable them to advance in a variety of fields. Students obtain the meta-skills necessary to learn and how to adapt to a world characterized by constant change.

- Twenty-first century professions demand a more sophisticated understanding of texts and the contexts that produce them. Work in English prepares students to become creative thinkers and communicators who can thrive in this global information economy.

- Students may choose an emphasis in either literature or writing, but all classes emphasize the research and evaluation of information, ethical practice and the human connection achieved through reading and writing.

What can I do with this major?

HPU alumni with degrees in English currently have careers as:

- Account executives
- Communication & marketing managers
- Copywriters
- Editors
- Lawyers
- Lead brand writer
- Producers
- Professors of English
- Project managers

Student Learning Outcomes for English Majors

Students who complete either the Literature track or the Writing track will be able to:

- Communicate a nuanced command of generic, aesthetic, formal, and stylistic conventions appropriate to a given context;
- Demonstrate understanding of social, cultural, or historical contexts of multiple discourses, debates, traditions, or literatures;
- Evaluate how language constructs, maintains, and subverts identities, communities, and power structures;
- Interpret texts using a variety of reading strategies and theoretical approaches;
- Research and construct rhetorically effective texts that present compelling evidence and contribute productively to relevant conversations.

Publication

English majors gain valuable publishing experience by editing and producing Apogee, the English department's literary magazine. Apogee publishes fiction, poetry, personal essays and art from emergent and established writers and artists. English majors are also well represented in Innovation, HPU's annual journal of creative and scholarly works.
Hometown: Ellicott City, Md.
Major: English Writing
Minor: Marketing
Clubs: Writing Center Tutor, Writing Studio Student Instructor, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society, National Society of Leadership and Success, Zumba Instructor
Greek Involvement: Alpha Chi Omega (V.P. of Philanthropy, Philanthropy Committee, Skit Committee, Greek Week/Lip Sync Committee)

Why I Chose HPU: “High Point University appealed to me for the small class size and the English program with a concentration in writing. When I heard the department’s dean speak about the HPU English program, I knew that it was going to push me to be the writer and the thinker that I wanted to be. I was drawn to a smaller school where I would receive the personalized attention that many other schools would not be able to offer. I have been fortunate to meet incredible faculty members in and out of my major who have inspired me to step out of my comfort zone and try something new. High Point University has taught and continues to teach me what it means to be an active member of the community and how each of us can learn from those around us.”

Holistic learning

The English Department hosts an excellent array of nationally and internationally-known writers over the course of the year via the Phoenix Reading Series. The annual Phoenix Festival includes a writing competition for local high school and High Point University students. All participants engage in a workshop with one of our acclaimed visiting writers.

Meet Jen

Hometown: Ellicott City, Md.
Major: English Writing
Minor: Marketing
Clubs: Writing Center Tutor, Writing Studio Student Instructor, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society, National Society of Leadership and Success, Zumba Instructor
Greek Involvement: Alpha Chi Omega (V.P. of Philanthropy, Philanthropy Committee, Skit Committee, Greek Week/Lip Sync Committee)

Study abroad opportunities

English majors take advantage of HPU’s many opportunities for study abroad. Students have studied in England, the Czech Republic, Italy and South Africa. English professors have led Maymester trips to England, Scotland, and Scandinavia. Not only do our students gain a new perspective on the world around them through their study abroad experience, they return as active global citizens ready to take on the world around them.

Where are our alumni?

English alumni are spread around the globe. In recent years, our students have been led to careers with:
- Accuweather
- DDB New York
- Emerson College
- Fortuna Enterprises
- FOX News
- Hasbro Toys
- Landura Management
- Lucky Dog Publishing
- National Merchants Association
- New York Law School
- Redhype
- Rutgers University
- Wake Forest University

For more information about HPU’s English Program, contact:

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