

Seattle Central College Transfer Major Planning Guide

ENGLISH

What can I do with a major in English?

Although majoring in English does not necessarily lead to one specific career, English majors are well-prepared for jobs in a variety of fields. Some English majors will go on to work as writers, copy editors, or journalists, or use their writing skills in marketing or publishing. Some will pursue further education and work as teachers, professors, librarians, or in other fields. English majors will hopefully find that the writing, critical thinking, and communication skills they have learned with their degree will prepare them well for a wide variety of possible jobs in business, government, education, or the non-profit world.

Common concentrations within the English undergraduate major include:

- Comparative literature
- Creative writing
- Journalism

At some universities, these may also be separate majors.

How can I prepare at Seattle Central for a major in English?

Students planning to major in English at a baccalaureate institution may take courses in **English literature, American literature, comparative literature, world literature, and foreign language, as well as general education requirements**, to prepare to transfer. Specific requirements vary according to the transfer university, so it is strongly recommended that students work with an advisor at Seattle Central as well as advisors at the universities where they are considering transferring to ensure they take the appropriate classes to be prepared to enter the major when they transfer.

Students planning to major in English should consider earning the Associate of Arts – DTA degree to prepare to transfer. Advisors can help students look at prerequisite requirements and choose the degree that will work best for them.

Consider an emphasis to your associate degree before you transfer, such as Equity and Social Justice or Global Studies. This can enhance your resume, personal experience and be something you put into your personal statement. You may even already have completed it without knowing it! For questions on how to plan your emphasis, please contact your advisor.

Tips for Success as an English Major

- Students planning to study English may need to take sequences of English literature courses that span several quarters. Check prerequisites for these courses and when they are offered, and make sure to complete the entire sequence at the same college.
- Check both university *admission* and *graduation* requirements at your preferred transfer university as a guide to choosing your classes. Many universities may require a year of foreign language as a graduation requirement for English majors. It will probably be easier (and cheaper!) to meet that requirement at Seattle Central rather than waiting until later.
- English departments are unlikely to require any specific math courses, but it is still a good idea to take math early so that you are sure to complete your general math requirement before you transfer.
- Check prerequisites, admission requirements, and GPA requirements at your intended transfer university early so you can be well-prepared to transfer.
- Most universities offer an English major, but the concentrations they offer vary. If you want to study creative writing, for instance, make sure your intended transfer university offers that focus.

Where can I earn a bachelor's degree in English in Washington?

Most universities offer a major in English. To find out which universities in Washington State offer English as an undergraduate major, visit: <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

Next Steps:

- Research the universities you are interested in attending and the prerequisite classes they require for your major.
- Meet with an advisor to choose a transfer degree, discuss prerequisites, and plan what classes you need to take in the next quarter or two.
- Explore the professional organizations in your area of interest for more information about education and career options.