



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

## English

### WHY STUDY ENGLISH AT UMAINE?

We are devoted to literature as a living tradition and a dynamic contemporary enterprise, and to writing as a way of knowing, a means of connecting and one of the most powerful inventions in human history. In addition to studying classic and contemporary literature, English majors can pursue interests in writing, theory, multicultural studies and gender studies. They gain insight into the complexities of human experience, appreciation of our cultural heritage, openness to different ways of thinking and feeling, and awareness of how language shapes reality. They also hone their abilities to think critically and to communicate their views and visions. Every year, our department hosts visiting poets, fiction writers and scholars who teach classes, meet informally with students and give readings. The department is also home to the National Poetry Foundation, which is internationally known for its publications and conferences on modern and postmodern poetry. With these resources to support and guide them, our students gain a sophisticated understanding of the contemporary literary scene, which carries over into their own creative and critical work. The department is a welcoming place, with the Ulrich Wicks Reading Room providing a quiet, comfortable study space.

### OUR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Most classes are small and writing-intensive; students get to know one another and their professors through lively discussion. Our curriculum covers a range of literature from Chaucer to avant-garde fiction. In addition, every student develops an expertise in analytical writing, creative writing or professional writing. Many English faculty and students participate in the Honors College, and top students may train to work as peer tutors in our nationally recognized Writing Center.

### OUR GRADUATE PROGRAM

Our master's program emphasizes intensive work in small seminars. The curriculum combines traditional period courses with constantly changing topics courses related to faculty research interests. Assistantships offer qualified students the opportunity to gain teaching experience while funding their studies. Recent M.A. graduates have been offered full funding at excellent Master of Fine Arts and Ph.D. programs around the country.

### OUR FACULTY

Most classes for the major are taught by full-time faculty who are active scholars and writers. Our faculty have won awards for research, teaching and advising, and for service to the profession. Tenured faculty teach at all levels of the curriculum, from first-year courses to graduate seminars.

### WHAT CAN I DO WITH AN ENGLISH DEGREE?

People with English degrees tend to work in three broad areas:

- Teaching and educational administration
- Business, management, government and law
- Publishing, editing, public relations, professional writing and information science

The English major is excellent preparation for law school or graduate school; as a second major or minor, it pairs well with any other area of study.

### OPPORTUNITIES TO EXCEL

The department sponsors contests in poetry, fiction, playwriting, professional writing, and the academic essay. Outstanding students compete for Kelly Scholarships in creative writing, the Nellie Ruth Pillsbury King Memorial Scholarship, the Hill Scholarship

### UMaine's ADVANTAGE

- Recent graduates have found jobs with the New York Public Library, the FBI, and Teach for America
- Each year we host visiting poets, fiction writers and scholars who teach classes, meet informally with students and give readings
- Home to the National Poetry Foundation

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Connect with us:  
[umaine.edu/socialnetwork](http://umaine.edu/socialnetwork)

## ABOUT UMAINE

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls more than 11,000 total undergraduate and graduate students. UMaine students directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. The University of Maine offers doctoral degrees in 30 fields, representing the humanities, sciences, engineering and education; master's degrees in 85 disciplines; 90 undergraduate majors and academic programs; and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, visit [umaine.edu](http://umaine.edu).

## explore

*Bachelor of Arts in English*

*Concentrations in Analytical Writing*

*Creative Writing*

*Professional Writing*

*Minors in English*

*Creative Writing*

*Professional Writing*

*Master of Arts in English (Concentration in Composition and Pedagogy, Creative Writing, Gender and Literature, Poetry and Poetics)*

*Five-Year Degrees in B.A. in English/B.S. in Engineering B.A. in English/M.B.A.*



for an outstanding junior, and the Ellis Prize for an outstanding senior, as well as membership in Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society. The Edna St. Vincent Millay Prize in Poetry is awarded each year to a student or alumnus of our graduate program. Peer tutors from our Writing Center present papers every year at the national conference in their field. Students in professional writing courses and internships help to secure grants for their community and

campus clients. The Student Writers' Studio offers advanced design software for students in the Professional Writing Program and for the editors of student-run literary magazines, *The Open Field* and *Ursus*.

### HOW DO I APPLY?

Visit [umaine.edu](http://umaine.edu) for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.

