

“The English major at Springfield College is an incredibly supportive academic group to be a part of. The small class sizes, caring professors, and numerous opportunities to extend your professional career are a few of the amazing qualities of this major. I had the privilege to share my writing, research, and knowledge at a variety of levels that would not be possible without the guidance and support provided during my studies. Being a part of this major has impacted me as a student and as a person in such a positive way.”

- Emily Van Horn '20

What Will You Learn?

Critical Thinking and Intellectual Independence

Write, read, speak, and think critically, interpretively, creatively, and empathetically about a variety of texts across various periods and genres.

Hone your ability to independently devise, develop, research, and complete analytical and research-based projects.

Written and Verbal Communication Skills

Critically reflect on your own writing and be able to write fluently in a range of genres for a variety of purposes suitable for specific audiences—essential skills for success in our global, technological world.

Breadth and Depth of Content Knowledge

Understand key methodologies and critical terminology in the study of literature and writing, and how forms and genres arise from specific contexts.

Where Can You Go?

As a graduate from the English major, you'll have dozens of career opportunities at your fingertips, including in the fields of:

Education
Journalism
Research
Government
Publishing
Advertising
Technical Writing
Creative Writing
Editing

Law schools, graduate programs, and nonprofit organizations especially value English majors for their highly developed skills in critical thinking, writing, researching, and communication.

1st YEAR

Pursue Knowledge

Take your Springfield College Seminar (SCSM 101).
Take four Foundations for the Future courses.
Take English 160: Introduction to Literary Studies.

2nd YEAR

Gain Experience

Connect with the editorial board for *The Alden Street Review*.
Learn another language or add a Spanish minor.

Take four *Understanding the World* courses.
Confirm that you've taken a Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) course.
Finish your Wellness course sequence.
Declare a Themed Exploration that complements your major interests.
Focus your studies on 200-level English courses.

3rd YEAR

Build Your Communities

Take care of your spiritual, mental, and physical health.
Get involved with a club, service activity, intramural sports, New Student Orientation (NSO), Residential Life, or Pre-Camp.
Consider a campus job, if you are eligible for work-study, or community-engaged employment opportunities.

Start planning your semester abroad as your Themed Exploration.
Serve on *The Alden Street Review* editorial board.
An internship is one of the most important pre-professional experiences employers look for so start planning now with your advisor and Career Center staff.

Take two Themed Exploration courses (make sure one is Global).
Get started on your Wellness Passport.
Declare a minor to complement your creative or academic goals.
Keep taking intermediate English courses and try an advanced course.

Strengthen your writing skills by keeping a blog of your experiences and learning abroad.
Complete your internship requirement.
Continue to develop leadership skills through attending a regional or national conference or becoming an executive board member of your club/organization.

4th YEAR

Prepare for Life After College

Get involved to develop transferable skills

- Attend departmental and campus events to network and meet faculty, staff, and students.
- Meet with a Career Counselor to explore careers and/or majors.
- Utilize Career Center resources, including Handshake.

Develop academic and career-related goals

- Visit the Career Center to research fields of interest.
- Have resumes and cover letters reviewed by the Career Center.
- Now is the time to develop your academic and career goals with your advisor and a career counselor.

Gain experiential education in your field

- Attend networking events and job fairs to learn about employment opportunities.
- Plan an internship experience with your faculty internship coordinator and the Career Center.
- Look at graduate school requirements to ensure you are on track.

Apply for jobs or graduate school

- Prepare your applications for jobs and graduate school.
- Ask professionals to serve as references.
- Participate in mock interviews to strengthen skills and build confidence.
- Speak with the International Center about opportunities in the U.S. and abroad.

The map offers suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone's abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. **You don't have to do it all.**