BACHELOR OF ARTS
English

Major description

Explore literature and how it imparts meaning in multiple contexts and eras, including the contemporary globalized world.

Engage in the close study and analysis of complex texts and gain a solid background in literature from various time periods and geographical locations. Discover the ways in which the study of literary texts leads to a better understanding of our world. Mastery of the English language does not simply allow you to use a properly placed semicolon: it empowers you to think critically about the world around you and your place in it.

Program highlights

The Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies run the AMP Lab, which houses projects that engage the work of the humanities, adding value to cultural artifacts through interpretation and analysis in a digital context.

Complete a Certificate in Communication and Rhetoric to enhance your degree and resume.

Your career options

Mastery of the English language is a powerful political and philosophical tool to expand career options in the information age. Secure a career in marketing, advertising, publishing, or web design or explore occupations like speechwriter, editor and media producer.

Visit the English webpage and scroll down to the “Your Career Options” heading for more employment information.

Looking for support?

UBC Okanagan provides a broad range of support services for students from admission through to graduation. Ranging from help with academics and careers to physical and emotional resources, visit Student Support and Resources for a full list of helpful supports. Some examples are included below:

- Academic & Career Development provides academic and career support for all undergraduate students
- Indigenous Programs & Services provides academic support to self-identified First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students
- International Student Advising supports international students with immigration, employment in Canada, and more
- Faculty, Program Coordinator or Subject Area Advisors provide faculty-specific academic support
- Disability Resource Centre assists with disability-related accommodations and programming initiatives to help remove barriers for students with disabilities and ongoing medical conditions
- Counsellors help students examine and explore their behaviors, relationships, feelings, or thoughts that cause concern or challenges
- Financial support is available to help students learn to budget, pay tuition, or apply for awards and scholarships

How to use the Program Plan:

Tuum est! This Program Plan is designed to help shape your UBC experience, challenge yourself to try new things, and become the person and scholar you want to be to help make your time at UBC Okanagan yours. The Program Plan offers suggestions – you don’t have to do it all!

The Program Plan includes four categories:
- Explore the Major: Explore what you’ll be studying and learning. Make connections between your program and future career or education opportunities and goals.
- Connect and Build Community: Making connections will help develop your support network throughout your studies and beyond.
- Engage Locally and Globally: Get ready for life beyond UBC by accessing programming and resources aligned with your goals, interests, and career pathways.
- Develop Skills and Gain Relevant Experience: Expand your capacity to understand the changing world and embrace different perspectives by seeking out new experiences and opportunities.

Getting Started
First-year standing

Explore the English program by visiting the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies (FCCS) website or reviewing the Academic Calendar.
Learn more about your major requirements by visiting the Degree Navigator webpage and reviewing the First-Year Planning Guide.
Book an appointment with an advisor to discuss program or career-related questions. Find the advisor that is right for you by reviewing advising options available.
Visit the Student Learning Hub throughout your degree for free supports from peers and professionals that include tutoring in math, sciences, languages, and writing.

Moving Through Your Degree
Second-year standing

To declare English as your major contact an Academic & Career Advisor.
Explore more FCCS undergraduate studies options to add a minor or find unique courses to fill your elective requirements.
Meet with an instructor or TA during office hours: ask a question, discuss an assignment, or go over lecture material.
International Students: Contact International Student Advising to review your study status.
Considering further education? Find graduate programs at UBCO and beyond. Research application requirements, admissions information, and funding options.

Moving Through Your Degree
Third-year standing

Explore a topic of interest in depth by participating in Undergraduate Research. Apply for the Undergraduate Research Award to support your research under the supervision of a FCCS faculty member.
Explore co-op opportunities to strengthen your skills and build your work experience by applying to the Co-operative Education Office. Applications open in September to students with 3rd year standing or higher.
Participate in the Eco Art Incubator or the AMP Lab.
Study abroad by participating in Go Global program such as exchange, faculty-led global seminar, or research abroad.
Receive training and support to help develop career and employment readiness by participating in the Arts Career Apprenticeship Program.

Preparing for Graduation and Your Future
Fourth-year+ standing

Market yourself to employers by reflecting on your UBCO experience and identifying the skills and knowledge you developed through the activities you participated in. Meet with a Career Development Specialist for help with your resume, cover letter, and job search strategy.
Schedule an appointment with an advisor the term before you plan to graduate to ensure that you will meet all academic graduation requirements.
Review graduation eligibility requirements and deadlines before you apply to graduate and learn about convocation.

Legend

Experiential Education opportunities are highlighted with a symbol.
Plan ahead! Statements highlighted with a symbol must be completed during a specific term(s) or have an associated deadline.

Undergraduate Programs and Admissions: you.ubc.ca
Explore Experiential Education
Participate in hands-on, immersive learning experiences.

Explore high-impact, “learn-by-doing” experiences that take your education beyond the classroom. Whether on- or off-campus, paid or volunteer, participating in directed experiences and focused reflection helps to increase knowledge, develop skills, clarify values, and build your capacity to contribute to your communities. Experiential Education opportunities are highlighted with a symbol.

Most opportunities highlighted below can be pursued at any time. Opportunities with timelines or deadlines are noted with a symbol.

Getting Started:
Explore new opportunities and interests.

- New to UBC? Participate in orientation and transition programming to connect with other students and get involved in the campus community.
- Find on-campus events to meet new people and get involved with the campus community using the Events Calendar.
- Meet a Student Connector at Student Connect for help with navigating campus and to learn more about the opportunities available at UBC Okanagan. Follow @UBCOStudents on Instagram for campus tips, opportunities, and event updates.
- Attend a Heat Varsity Athletics game. Admission is free with your student UBCcard.

Develop Interests and Broaden Perspectives:
Get more involved and build your skills and connections.

- Branch out, get involved in student life, and have fun by joining a student association like the UBCO English Course Union to meet peers and participate in events and activities. Follow the English program on Facebook or the English program on Instagram to keep up to date on events and connect with our community on campus and beyond.
- Build your connections to the community by attending FCCS events and workshops.
- Build your networking skills with alumni working in careers in your desired industry by using TenThousand Coffees and LinkedIn or by attending career events and workshops.
- Commuting? Visit Collegespaces on campus to relax, study, and socialize with others.
- Planning to live on campus? Apply to join a Living Learning Community.

Immersive Experiences: Take part in unique opportunities and programs. Find ways to immerse yourself in your experiences.

- Explore professional associations such as the Canadian Authors Association for more information about potential careers, networking opportunities, and more.
- Give back to the campus community by volunteering or applying to work on campus: Student & Alumni Job Board.
- Engage with your community in a meaningful way and help to create social change by participating in the Community Service Learning program.
- Create your own student association, study group, or social club to connect with peers.

Connect your experiences
Whether you’re new-to-UBCO or nearing graduation, reflect on the questions below to help connect your values, interests, and education to your future career or personal goals. Practicing reflection can help deepen your learning, strengthen your connections, and encourage life-long learning. These reflection questions are meant to help you build a UBC Okanagan experience that is unique to you.

- What are you hoping to learn as you progress through your degree?
- What kind of career are you interested in after completing your degree?
- How will the skills and knowledge you acquire during your studies help you in your career after graduation?
- What relationships and experiences are you hoping to gain from your time at university?

Use the Program Plan regularly throughout your time at UBC to build an experience that is fulfilling and rewarding.

Connect & Build Community
Develop Relevant Skills & Gain Experience
Learn about UBCO’s commitments to Truth and Reconciliation and Indigenous initiatives. Explore course options and electives that broaden your own perspectives and worldviews.

Learn about programs and supports available through the Equity & Inclusion Office.
- Participate in cross-cultural initiatives organized by the Global Engagement Office (GEO) to increase cultural awareness and grow professionally.
- Get involved with Student Union Okanagan (SUO) resource groups:
  - Indigenous Peoples Collective (IPC)
  - Peer Support Network (PSN)
  - Pride Resource Centre (PRC)
  - Women’s Resource Centre (WRC)
  - Sex Positivity Centre (SPC)

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