

Do you...

- Enjoy reading or writing?
- Want to develop skills in independent and imaginative thinking that employers value?
- Like the idea of a degree that is for you as well as for work?
- Enjoy English at school or college?
- Have a lively interest in culture and creativity?

If you can answer 'yes' to some of these questions, then a degree in English literature, language or creative writing is for you.

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[www.english.heacademy.ac.uk](http://www.english.heacademy.ac.uk)

Free copies of this leaflet are available by emailing  
[esc@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:esc@rhul.ac.uk)

## To Find Out More About

### Employment Prospects:

- The English Degree and Graduate Careers ([www.english.heacademy.ac.uk/explore/publications/reports.php](http://www.english.heacademy.ac.uk/explore/publications/reports.php))
- The Prospects Website ([www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk))

### Courses Available:

- The HERO Website ([www.hero.ac.uk/uk/studying/](http://www.hero.ac.uk/uk/studying/)) – information and advice on choosing courses
- The UCAS Website ([www.ucas.ac.uk](http://www.ucas.ac.uk)) – search for courses by subject, institution or region
- The TQI Website ([www.tqi.ac.uk](http://www.tqi.ac.uk)) – official information about course quality
- The English Subject Centre Website has a link to all English Departments' web pages at [www.english.heacademy.ac.uk/find/depts/index.php](http://www.english.heacademy.ac.uk/find/depts/index.php) and advice on how to interpret them at [www.english.heacademy.ac.uk/explore/resources/students/index.php](http://www.english.heacademy.ac.uk/explore/resources/students/index.php)
- Creative Writing – go to [www.nawe.co.uk](http://www.nawe.co.uk) and request a copy of *Writing at University: Courses and Case Studies*, NAWA, 2004

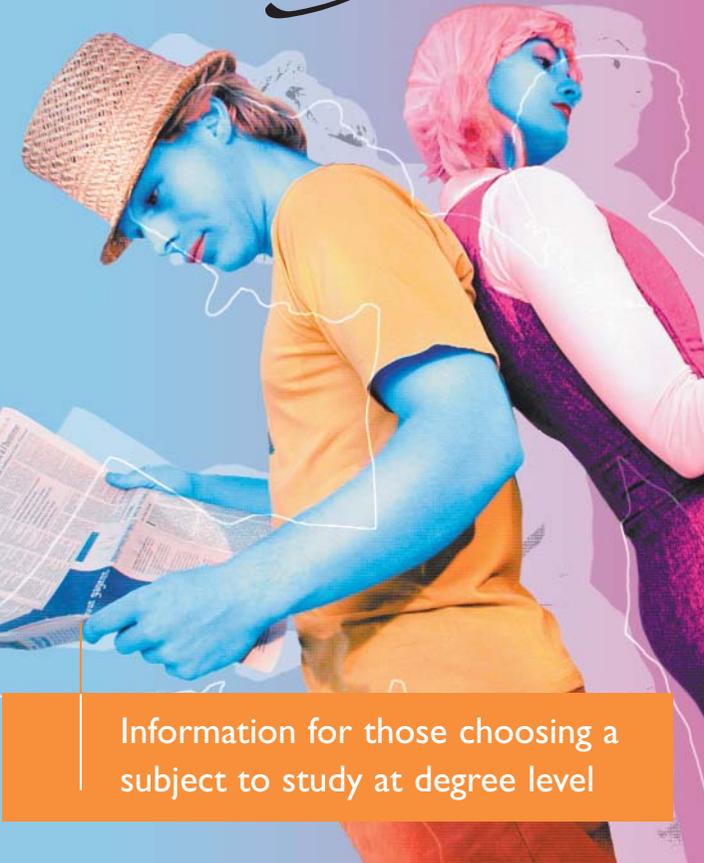
### The Learning Experience:

Talk to current students or recent graduates about their experiences, or visit an English Department near you. It's best to phone the Department to arrange this in advance.

Books giving an introduction to English study include:

- *Doing English – a guide for literature students* by Robert Eaglestone, 2nd ed. Routledge 2002, ISBN 0415284236
- *Studying Literature – the essential companion* by Paul Goring et al, Arnold, 2001, ISBN 0340759461
- *Studying the English Language* by Rob Penhallurick, Palgrave 2003, ISBN 03333727401
- *Get set for English Language* by Christine Robinson, ISBN 074861544X and *Get set for English Literature* by David Amigoni & Julie Sanders, ISBN 0748615377 both published by Edinburgh University Press in 2003.

why  
you should  
Study  
English



Information for those choosing a  
subject to study at degree level

## Excellent Employment Prospects

- English is a flexible and adaptable subject that opens up a wide range of career choices.
- Graduates in English possess skills in written and spoken communication, working independently and thinking critically, which are highly valued by employers.
- English graduates perform as well as most other graduate groups in finding employment and seem better at securing 'graduate-level' jobs than other groups of humanities graduates.

*With only 9 percent experiencing a period of unemployment, English graduates are not at all different from the 'average' and seem to be in a better position than some other humanities graduates.*

The English Degree & Graduate Careers, 2003

- Contrary to popular belief, teaching is not the main occupation of English graduates. Many go into general management, research and consultancy and the public services as well as publishing and the creative industries.

## Personal Satisfaction

- Three years is a long time to study something you don't enjoy. English students are involved in, challenged and exhilarated by their studies. They enjoy great opportunities to debate issues in stimulating ways.
- English degrees offer opportunities to develop your own interests and enthusiasms (especially a love of reading), as well as time to think about a range of personal, cultural and historical issues.
- Study of English is commonly combined with other subjects in Combined or Joint Honours formats. There are natural areas of overlap with many other subjects.

*'My first degree gave me the space and framework for thinking about life, the universe and everything... and it did give me three years in which to develop what has remained an enduring personal love.'*

English graduate

## Quality of Teaching

- English Departments are, typically, dynamic places whose staff are professionally committed to teaching and students.
- There is a close relationship between cutting-edge research and teaching even at undergraduate level.

## Range of Learning Opportunities

- English has a long-standing and respected base in higher education.
- English programmes offer the opportunity to study the literature of many people and places as well as English language and creative writing.
- The subjects, cultures, periods and authors which you will encounter in a degree programme are wide-ranging. You will develop an understanding of the many strands that make up Britain's plural culture and the influences that shape its literature and language.

*You develop the insight of an artist, the analytical precision of a scientist and the persuasiveness of a lawyer.*

Prof. Maureen Moran, Brunel University

*'There are loads of things I'm learning that I didn't know were covered in English!'*

First year English Student