

The **English BA** at the University of Leicester includes both English Literature and English Language.

The School of English is also involved in 7 joint degree courses:

- **BA English and American Studies**
- **BA English and History**
- **BA French and English**
- **BA Italian and English**
- **BA Spanish and English**
- **BA Film Studies and English**
- **BA History of Art and English**

The analytical and creative skills taught on our degree courses mean our graduates have an excellent record of securing jobs in diverse, competitive fields. As a result, the School of English at Leicester ranks amongst the top English departments in the UK for graduate prospects (The Complete University Guide 2012 tables).

CASE STUDY:

Phil Bayley (English BA, graduated 2010)

I am currently on a Graduate Teacher Programme with the Institute of Education and will be starting my Newly Qualified Teacher year in September. I teach English at a comprehensive school in Ilford. Although I'm still training, I'm employed and paid by the school. I entered straight on to the GTP programme after graduating from the School of English at Leicester. An English degree is relevant in various ways to teaching English in a secondary school context. There are obvious things like having subject knowledge. However, it is relevant in other ways too. For example, doing an English degree helped me to develop organisational skills. My time at Leicester also helped me to acquire skills in working as a part of a team and I had an opportunity to take a teaching role in the Christian Union.

CASE STUDY:

Amy Ford (English BA, graduated 2007)

I am a researcher for the One Show, broadcast each weeknight on BBC1. I make the consumer affairs and food films for the programme. It is my job to set up shoots, speak to contributors and help write scripts.

My interest in following this career began after meeting a broadcast journalist at BBC Leicester, after which I began reporting on the BBC's local website about things going on around the University. I was also heavily involved with the University of Leicester student radio for a couple of years which really got me into how radio works.

My time at Leicester was brilliant for all kinds of reasons. I met my best friends there and learnt a lot of valuable life lessons! The lectures and seminars were always interesting and I enjoyed the course structure. All the English faculty members are so passionate about their subjects which really comes through in their teaching.



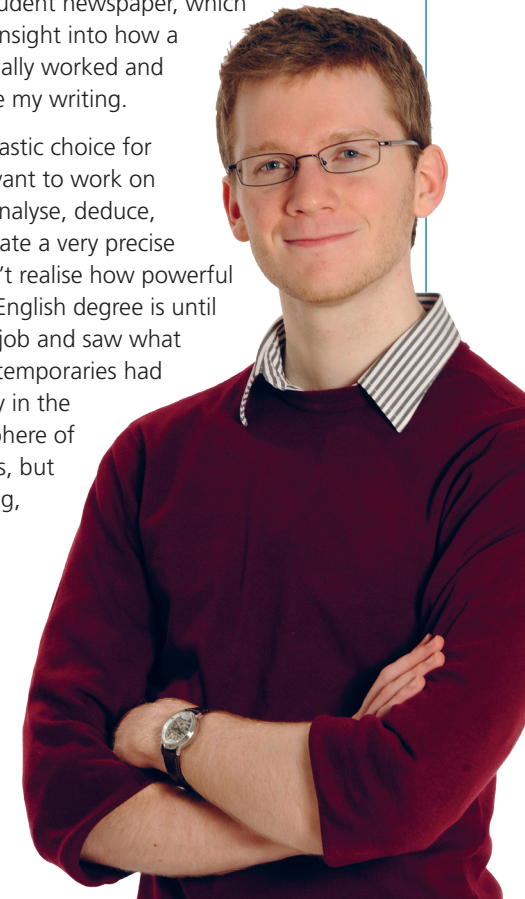
CASE STUDY:

Phillip Dyte (English BA, graduated 2009)

I work in a high-profile Public Relations firm where my job is to help my clients raise their profile with smart communications and media strategies. A lot of people tend to have misgivings about PR, but I'm helping support charities and not-for-profit organizations as well as other companies – it's really rewarding work.

From the English BA at Leicester I learned a lot about focused writing and how to convey a message during my coursework and exams. Cramming as much as you can into exam essays whilst avoiding fluff is not too dissimilar to writing a press release! I was also film editor on the student newspaper, which gave me some insight into how a newspaper actually worked and helped me hone my writing.

English is a fantastic choice for students who want to work on their ability to analyse, deduce, and then articulate a very precise meaning. I didn't realise how powerful and flexible an English degree is until I actually had a job and saw what courses my contemporaries had taken – not only in the fairly obvious sphere of communications, but also in marketing, accounting, management...



CASE STUDY:

Claire Skinner (English BA, graduated 1990)



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I have been the Principal Archivist for Wiltshire since 2006. My job involves managing a team of about 12 people, and all the associated budget management and operational management of the archive service. I am involved in

acquisition and cataloguing of historical records, which is the core work of any archivist. I also answer enquiries from the public, help them to use archives in person, and give talks and create exhibitions to promote the use of archives.

The skills of reading and analysing information quickly and selecting the most important points to include are equally useful for writing an essay and in archive work, so there is a great deal of connection between my degree and my job. Archivists like bringing order out of chaos, but we also like sharing our findings with others, so being able to talk confidently about your work is important.

After studying at Leicester, I took a postgraduate diploma in archive administration and worked my way up through this highly competitive field. My Leicester English degree was the foundation of my career.

Examples of recent Leicester English graduate destinations:

Jobs: Teacher; Editorial Assistant; Accountant; Media Analyst; Account Executive; PR Assistant; Librarian; Commissioning Analyst (NHS); Parliamentary Researcher.

Further study: Law conversion course; MA Journalism; MA Publishing; MA Social Work; MSc Marketing; PGCE Secondary English with Media; PGCE Primary; MA Planning and Development; NCTJ Fast Track Newspaper Journalism

For more details on courses in the School of English and English graduate careers please see:

School of English careers website:
www.le.ac.uk/departments/english/studentresources/careers

School of English undergraduate degrees:
www.le.ac.uk/departments/english/undergraduate

The School of English
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School of English

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Careers for
graduates in English

www.le.ac.uk/english