Department of English degrees and focus areas

Creative Writing (BA, MFA)
English Education (BA, MA, PhD)
Film and Media Studies (BA, MAS)
Linguistics and Applied Linguistics (BA, MA, MTESOL, PhD)
Literature (BA, MA, PhD)
Writing, Rhetorics and Literacies (BA, MA, PhD)

Online degrees offered: BA English, BA Film and Media Studies, MA English (English Studies), MAS Film and Media Studies, MTESOL.

Areas of transdisciplinary strength:
Computer-Assisted Language Learning, Critical Theory, Desert Humanities, Digital Humanities, Environmental Humanities, Health Humanities, Literary Translation, LGBTQ Studies, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Race and Democracy, Science and Imagination, Young Adult Literature.

Philanthropy fuels possibilities

When you invest in the Department of English at ASU, you help us achieve important goals in enabling research excellence, ensuring student success, and positively impacting our communities. During the 2018-2019 academic year, your support made possible the outfitting of a state-of-the-art audio lab, the creation of a new award for high-achieving interns, and $36,675 in student scholarships, fellowships, and awards. Thank you.

"I am so grateful for the opportunity and I am honored to be recognized for this work ... The nature of my research, as well as my experiences teaching and learning from the work of my students, has led me to become more active in my community and to help contribute to social justice initiatives.

—Colleen Wilkowski, 2019 High Impact Internship Award winner"
What can you do with an English degree? Everything. Our motto—start here; go anywhere—captures the unique value of a degree awarded by the Department of English at Arizona State University, one that can serve you in any art form, any discipline and any profession. In fact, the degree can take you anywhere you wish to travel.

Cultivating an inclusive environment

We educate students from all over the world and from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds. This diversity in experience and skillsets leads to important conversations and research. Of the nearly 2,000 students pursuing degrees in the Department of English, 32% are students of color, 46% are Pell Grant eligible, and 33% are the first in their families to attend a university.

Leading global impact and innovative solutions

As one of the largest English departments nationally, we believe our mission befits our scale. Our vision is to explore global expressions of the English language in all media — preparing citizens who are fluent in creative problem-solving and committed to individual and collective expression.

Research benefiting communities

Tyler Peterson, a linguist and assistant professor in the Department of English, oversees ASU student interns working with native communities, like the Salt River Pima-Maricopa and the San Carlos Apache, to document, revitalize and maintain endangered languages.

MacArthur ‘genius’ engages imagination

Natalie Diaz is an associate professor in English and the Maxine and Jonathan Marshall Chair in Modern and Contemporary Poetry. The recent recipient of a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship, Diaz is committed to “practicing poetics in daily life” in art and activism and encourages her students to do the same.

Rare books fund preserves Holocaust memory

A collection of miniature artist’s books and a limited-edition English translation of poetry by a child Holocaust victim—works by book artist Kelly M. Houle, a graduate of ASU’s creative writing program—are available at ASU Library, thanks to the Department of English’s Lamberts Memorial Rare Book Fund.