Department of Literature and Language

Undergraduate Degrees and Programs

• English Major, B.A. (Teaching/Nonteaching)
• Foreign Languages Major, B.A. (Concentration in German, Japanese, or Spanish)
• Classical and Medieval Studies Minor
• Creative Writing Minor
• English Minor
• Film and Media Studies Minor
• French Minor
• German Minor
• Japanese Minor
• Linguistics Minor
• Spanish Minor
• Spanish for the Professions Minor
• Technical and Professional Writing Minor
• Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Minor

Graduate Degree Programs

• English, M.A.
• Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Graduate Certificate

Careers in Literature and Language

An English or Foreign Language major prepares students for the shifting economy of the 21st century, as traditional careers transform into newly created and expanded fields. An English or Language major prepares students for this dynamic labor market by teaching transferable skills such as mastery of written and oral communication, complex reading skills, research techniques, long-term project organization, and cultural competence. An English/Language major can also prepare students for a wide range of teaching and educational administration careers in the United States and abroad, as well as the opportunity to practice law and medicine, to provide a foundation for social advocacy, and to develop one’s talents in creative writing.

Recent graduates work as strategists for companies such as Synergy Corporate Technologies, executive directors of non-profits such as the Highlander Center and Free the Girls, translation and interpretation specialists, high school teachers and college professors, and staff writers for The Johnson City Press. Others are pursuing graduate degrees in English, Creative Writing, and Foreign Languages.

For more career information associated with this program, visit the Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH) at bls.gov/ooh/.

Program Highlights

• We have numerous scholarship opportunities for students, including scholarships for English, Creative Writing, German, French, Study Abroad, and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.
• Drs. Jesse Graves and Mark Baumgartner, two award-winning writers, run our Creative Writing minor. We are home to The Mockingbird, a student creative writing journal.
• We offer several faculty-led study abroad opportunities, including Theater in London and Spanish in Toledo.
• The English major is home to an Honors-in-Discipline program with an exciting curriculum. Honors students have the opportunity to engage in undergraduate research and write a Senior Honors Thesis.
• The department houses the Language and Culture Resource Center, which involves ETSU students in interpretation and translation service learning opportunities.
• We have active chapters of National Honors Societies in English, French, German, and Spanish.
• Literature and Language is also the home of Aethlon: Journal of Sports Literature, a publication of the Sports Literature Association.

Contact: Department of Literature and Language - litlang@etsu.edu or (423) 439-4347