


**MAP OUT YOUR CAREER PATHWAY  
FROM THE START OF YOUR ACADEMIC JOURNEY!**

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**PROGRAM OPTIONS**  
B.A. HONOURS: 4 YEARS // B.A. ADVANCED: 4 YEARS  
B.A. GENERAL: 3 YEARS

**UMANITоба.CA/CAREERCOMPASS**



**UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA**



**WE ARE HERE TO HELP**

The university wants you to succeed in all areas of your life! Visit these resources and help centres:

*This circular model is rooted in Indigenous culture and shows the interconnectedness of development and success.*

February, 2017

- RECOMMENDED ANNUAL CHECKLIST**
- ❑ Know the degree requirements and university regulations that apply to your program
  - ❑ Meet with an academic advisor to ensure your academic plan meets degree requirements
  - ❑ Obtain department approval for the honours program
  - ❑ Check in with a career consultant to review progress on your career plan
  - ❑ Update your resumé and LinkedIn profile with applicable experiences
  - ❑ Get involved outside of the classroom and get recognized on your Co-Curricular Record



**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**

“What I enjoy about studying English, in comparison to other disciplines, is that literature gives you a lens into another culture and society. When you study a piece of literary work, you learn about social opinions and the historical context that the author was responding to.”

**Sarah Oresnik**, English literature student

Read stories of alumni and senior students who mapped their own academic and career plan to fit with their skills, abilities and interests: [umanitoba.ca/careercompass](http://umanitoba.ca/careercompass)

# ENGLISH LITERATURE COMPASS



This tool will provide you with the information you need for academic planning and connect you with experiences to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that employers are seeking.

**ENGLISH LITERATURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA**

Literature connects us in vital ways to times, places and cultures, including our own. The department of English, film, and theatre offers a wide range of courses that cover literature from medieval England to the present and that provide instruction in theoretical approaches and critical methods. The department also offers courses in film, theatre and creative writing.

**SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN BY STUDYING ENGLISH LITERATURE**

- A comprehensive knowledge of the English language (reading, writing, speaking and listening)
- The ability to analyze text and make connections between language, form, structure and meaning
- The ability to reflect upon the capacities of the human mind and imagination
- The ability to think critically and develop innovative responses to important moral and social questions

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH,  
THEATRE, FILM AND MEDIA**

625 Fletcher Argue Building  
(204) 474-9678  
[english@umanitoba.ca](mailto:english@umanitoba.ca)  
[umanitoba.ca/english](http://umanitoba.ca/english)

**CAREER SERVICES**

474 University Centre  
65 Chancellors Circle  
(204) 474-9456  
[cs.receptionist@umanitoba.ca](mailto:cs.receptionist@umanitoba.ca)  
[umanitoba.ca/student/careerservices](http://umanitoba.ca/student/careerservices)

**WHAT DO EMPLOYERS WANT?**

Industries such as communications, education, film and theatre, government and publishing would value an English literature degree in combination with the employability skills that are highly sought after by employers. These include\*:

- Oral and written communication
- Critical thinking
- Problem solving
- Teamwork
- Digital technology
- Numeracy and data use
- Industry specific knowledge
- Continuous learning

Attain skills through your classroom education by taking advantage of experiential education opportunities.

*\*Information has been taken directly from Employability Skills 2000+ and Workplace Education Manitoba – Essential Skills.*

**WHAT IS EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION?**

Experiential education will enhance your classroom education by giving you hands-on experience that will resonate with employers. The University of Manitoba offers a wide variety of programs designed to facilitate your personal growth, connect you with others and ignite your active engagement in the local and global community.

**EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Work experience opportunities
- International student exchanges, international internships and travel study
- Local and international service-learning opportunities
- Undergraduate research and entrepreneurship
- Leadership and volunteer opportunities

The English Literature Compass provides you with suggestions of how and when to use opportunities to make the most of your university experience. You may follow these guidelines or map out your own route.

# ENGLISH LITERATURE COMPASS

B.A. Honours: 4 years  
B.A. Advanced: 4 years  
B.A. General: 3 years

	ACADEMIC SUCCESS	CAREER TIPS	VOLUNTEER & WORK EXPERIENCE	CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES	
<b>YEAR 1</b> 30 CREDITS	<p><b>Course requirements:</b> ENGL 1200 or 1300 or both ENGL 1400 and 1340</p> <p><b>To do this year:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Know the requirements for your degree. Meet with an academic advisor to help you plan your program.</li> <li>2. Contact the Academic Learning Centre to meet with a writing tutor or visit the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture to see the Writer/Storyteller-in-Residence for help with your creative writing.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Start planning your career:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meet with a career consultant to generate career ideas based on your interests, values, personality and skills.</li> <li>2. Research occupations that match your skills and interests.</li> <li>3. Set up a careerCONNECT account to view job postings and register for workshops and events.</li> <li>4. Register for the Co-Curricular Record (CCR), an official record of university-approved activities.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Link experiences to your career interests.</b> <b>Options include:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Student groups including the English, Film, and Theatre Students Association and Arts Student Body Council.</li> <li>2. Join the University of Manitoba Volunteer Program to volunteer for events on campus.</li> <li>3. Student work opportunities including Work-Study, STEP Services or Federal Student Work Experience Program.</li> <li>4. Experiential education opportunities such as Alternative Reading Week Winnipeg.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Considering international opportunities?</b> Attend World Opportunities Week in November for information about opportunities around the world.</p> <p><b>Explore communities and cultures you want to work with:</b> Visit the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture, get involved with the Winnipeg International Writers Festival or learn about local agencies via Manitoba Contact Guide.</p>	<p><b>SAMPLE CAREERS WITH AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE AND RELATED EXPERIENCE</b></p> <p>Author Archivist Assistant Biographer Communications Officer Community Liaison Conference/ Event Planner Copywriter/Digital Copywriter Culture and Media Specialist Editor/Digital Editor Employment Counsellor Literary Agent Policy Analyst Proofreader Public Affairs Officer Publisher Publicity Assistant Social Media Strategist Speech Writer Technical Writer Video Game Writer Volunteer Coordinator Web Content Writer</p> <p><b>OPTIONS REQUIRING OTHER EDUCATION</b></p> <p>Adult EAL Instructor Archivist/Digital Archivist Journalist Lawyer Librarian Public Relations Specialist Teacher Translator University Professor</p>
<b>YEAR 2</b> 60 CREDITS	<p><b>Course requirements:</b> Refer to the Academic Calendar for course requirements in your program</p> <p><b>To do this year:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Should you follow a 3-or 4-year plan? Meet with a career consultant to map out your options.</li> <li>2. Research scholarships and awards offered by the department of English, film, and theatre.</li> <li>3. When choosing a minor, take courses that will open opportunities.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Make professional connections:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Join the Career Mentor Program to learn from professionals.</li> <li>2. Attend career fairs to connect with employers.</li> <li>3. Become a student affiliate with a professional organization such as Creative Manitoba.</li> <li>4. Develop professional connections with professors by applying for an Undergraduate Research Award.</li> </ol> <p><b>Market your skills:</b> Develop your resumé and cover letter and refine your interview skills.</p>	<p><b>Explore student research opportunities:</b> Apply for an Undergraduate Research Award and inquire about research assistant positions.</p> <p><b>Gain practical experience by volunteering:</b> Check out the Language Partner Program, Student Accessibility Services or the Volunteers in Public Service (VIPS) program.</p> <p><b>Find opportunities to market yourself:</b> Become a Faculty of Arts Student Ambassador or join the Student Leadership Development Program.</p>	<p><b>Develop global career skills and expand intercultural learning:</b> Consider an international student exchange or service-learning program, Students Without Borders internship, My World Abroad or SWAP for a “working holiday”.</p> <p><b>Staying local?</b> Check out Reading Buddies or one of the other local service-learning programs. Consider learning a new language and culture through the Volunteer Language Exchange Program.</p>	
<b>YEAR 3</b> 90 CREDITS	<p><b>Course requirements:</b> Refer to the Academic Calendar for course requirements in your program</p> <p><b>To do this year:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meet with a department advisor for honours program approval.</li> <li>2. Confirm eligibility to graduate with an academic advisor and declare intent to graduate in Aurora (3-year option).</li> </ol>	<p><b>Investigate your career options:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Look at sample job postings to ensure you have the qualifications upon graduation.</li> <li>2. Develop employability and essential skills sought by employers.</li> <li>3. Create a LinkedIn profile to network with professionals.</li> <li>4. Explore supports available to entrepreneurs for business planning such as the Business Start Program.</li> </ol> <p><b>Consider continuing your studies:</b> Check out the Faculty of Graduate Studies, Extended Education or other academic institutions.</p>	<p><b>Continue or start research:</b> Participate in the Undergraduate Research Poster Competition.</p> <p><b>Check out student job opportunities with:</b> Winnipeg Public Library, The Manitoban or apply to be a writing tutor with the Academic Learning Centre.</p> <p><b>Search for job opportunities online:</b> Check out Creative Manitoba, Job Bank, Find My Job, Indeed or other search engines.</p> <p><b>Use your networks and connections:</b> Inquire about unadvertised job openings (the “hidden job market”).</p>	<p><b>Did you travel abroad?</b> Write an article about your experience for World W.I.S.E. magazine.</p> <p><b>Participate in the multicultural opportunities on campus:</b> Attend International Week, participate in the Intercultural Development and Leadership Program, volunteer for the International Student Mentorship Program or take part in the Graduation Pow Wow.</p>	
<b>YEAR 4</b> 120 CREDITS	<p><b>Course requirements:</b> Refer to the Academic Calendar for course requirements in your program</p> <p><b>To do this year:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meet with a department advisor for honours program approval.</li> <li>2. Confirm eligibility to graduate with an academic advisor and declare intent to graduate in Aurora.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Start job search 9 months in advance:</b> Contact Career Services to refine your job search and self-marketing strategies. You can visit the office up to 6 months after graduation.</p> <p><b>If you are continuing on to graduate school:</b> Finalize your application materials and take required tests. Use the awards database to search for funding and awards to help finance your continuing education. Contact your department to find out how their awards deadlines are advertised.</p>	<p><b>Ensure you have references in place:</b> Ask your professor for a reference or a letter of recommendation if you’re applying for graduate school.</p> <p><b>Assess your resumé:</b> Identify any gaps in experience and fill them through volunteering, work placements or internships such as the Post-Secondary Recruitment Program.</p>	<p><b>Prepare to work in a multicultural environment:</b> Visit Canada’s National Research Centre for Truth and Reconciliation on campus or register for a Workplace Cultural Competence Workshop through Extended Education.</p>	

**Note:** This resource is meant as a guide to provide suggestions throughout your time at university. Develop a plan and timeline that suits you best. Make intentional choices for your courses and work experiences.

\*Please refer to the Academic Calendar for a complete list of program requirements.