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## B.A. in English

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### Major Information

The Department of English offers courses in English, American, and World literatures and in creative, professional, and digital writing. Courses are open to all students, regardless of their major.

The chief purpose of English courses is to enable you to analyze, contextualize, and produce writing and other forms of communication in the English language, with particular attention to professional and ethical concerns. We take pride in the success our graduates have achieved in publishing, education, marketing, law – indeed, in virtually every major career area.

### Careers in English

Our rigorous training in critical thinking, writing, reading, and research skills prepares English majors to meet and conquer any professional, advanced educational, managerial, or social problem that is presented in their chosen field.

Education and graduate school are certainly paths taken by a number of our graduates, but our graduates also become leaders in all kinds of fields and industries.

One recent graduate is a web-developer for Sesame Street English; another is an Inbound Marketing Specialist at a regional marketing agency; another is the communications coordinator for all the Jesuit schools of D.C.; one is a successful stand-up comedian and another is a writer of high-profile comic books; another is a manager for a tech start-up, while many others enjoy careers in sales, marketing, management, advocacy, nonprofit work and other careers where critical thinking, research and writing are valued.

### Student Activities

Students who like to write and who want to use their ability to communicate will find plenty of opportunities at St. Bonaventure.

Our literary magazine, *The Laurel*, has been published continuously since its first issue in 1899. The Department of English also advises Chattertons, our spoken word poetry club, which organizes performances and regularly brings world-renowned poets to campus.



English majors also work on the campus radio station WSBU FM; on the campus weekly newspaper, *The Bona Venture*; and on the *Bonadieu*, the campus yearbook.

### Our Faculty

Our award-winning faculty work directly with students in small classroom settings designed for one-on-one interaction. Experts in their fields, faculty members share their expertise with students regularly outside of the classroom in meetings and department events.

Members of the English faculty regularly present their research at top universities in the U.S., Canada, and Europe. We have received teaching and research awards at Bonaventure and with national professional organizations.



## B.A. in English

### What Our Students Have to Say

“The English Department at St. Bonaventure University made my four years incredibly fulfilling and rewarding. The faculty in the English Department are some of the most dedicated and intelligent individuals that I have ever had the pleasure of interacting with. They instill excitement about literature and facilitate rich discussions where each voice is valued.

I have engaged with a variety of literature and was given the confidence to analyze and discuss these works in my own words. I have examined texts detailing experiences vastly different from my own that sparked discussions about the struggles of the human condition.

Thanks to my experience with the St. Bonaventure University English Department, I am not only a better reader and writer, but I am also a better critical thinker and a more compassionate individual. When I become an English teacher, I hope to have the same impact on my students that the faculty of the English Department has had on me.

— Iris Archer, Class of 2023

“With the St. Bonaventure English program, I knew that I was part of a community who saw me as more than just a student. Not only have I had the opportunity to work with kind and knowledgeable professors, but I have also taken classes that taught me to think deeper, explore new content, and look at literature and other texts in a new way.

Classes like Digital Rhetoric, Women in Literature, and Narrative Writing have allowed me to explore my own creativity and abilities in an environment where I was not overly critiqued. In the English program, I was encouraged to continue pursuing my strengths while working on skills or concepts I struggled with.

Not every university offers things like full pages worth of feedback on essays, opportunities to provide suggestions for texts to be read in courses (that are taken seriously), various options to choose from for assessments, and the ability to read your classmates’ work in whole class peer-editing sessions. But at St. Bonaventure, these elements of the English program set your learning experience apart.

Most importantly, when I had classes with my English professors, I knew that my overall well-being was more important to them than anything else, which made me feel cared for and safe. I’ll never regret choosing Bonas, and I’m proud to be an English program alum!

— Sara Bozuhoski, Class of 2023

“Despite the minimal size of the English department rivaling that of St. Bonaventure, I could not have asked for much more in my four years as a Bonnie. The program’s small size provided a personalized experience within the literary sphere with each faculty member. Each faculty member shows great care with all their students both in and outside of the classroom.

Inside the classroom, the intimate class sizes yielded thought-provoking discussions that often had me continuing the conversations after class. They were always available to discuss work through office hours.

Outside of the classroom, when applying for my Masters in English in other institutions, I had the privilege of having multiple faculty members help me with writing samples, personal statements, and letters of recommendations.

Bona’s English program dutifully prepared me for my English MA through intimate discussions, analytical reading, and constant constructive criticism, and I could not have imagined my four years of undergraduate studies anywhere else.”

— Matt Villanueva, Class of 2022