

Department of English

Mission

The Department of English (<https://www.apu.edu/clas/english/>) introduces students to significant works of the literary imagination, guides their development in language and composition, and encourages them to read attentively, reflect deeply, write cogently, and express themselves creatively, all to glorify God and serve others.

Programs

The department offers an English major and minor, as well as an English Education concentration within the major for students interested in becoming English teachers. Also, exceptionally promising undergraduate English students may apply in their junior year for admission to the 4+1 BA/MA degree program; once admitted, these students complete up to 9 units of 500-level graduate coursework during their senior year and complete the remaining 21 units of the MA in English program over the next academic year (fall, spring, and summer terms; e.g., 9 units in the fall term, 9 units in the spring term, 3 units in the summer term). For more information about this program, contact the department at (626) 812-3079.

The MA in English provides professional preparation and personal enrichment to students in the field of literary studies, broadly conceived to include literature, cultural/film studies, and creative and/or professional writing. In keeping with the mission of Azusa Pacific, this program encourages an active conversation between Christianity and literature, preparing scholars, writers, and teachers for cultural engagement from a Christian perspective through the development of analytical and creative writing skills enriched by a theologically informed approach to reading, writing, teaching, and thinking about literary and other cultural texts.

Career Opportunities

Teaching is still a strong interest of many English and language majors, but equally valid are career goals in ministry, law, business, medicine, and government services. Communication areas such as advertising, technical writing, editing, publishing, and library science, or any field that requires clarity of written expression and the ability to analyze and organize effective responses, are also appealing career opportunities. English majors are encouraged to double major or at least minor in a complementary field such as business, religion, psychology, or communication, so that their language skills can be applied to a different professional field.

The Master of Arts in English equips students for leadership in careers in higher education, secondary school teaching, community college teaching, writing, business, government, and nonprofit organizations. The program also develops students' ability to think critically, write persuasively, and solve problems creatively—strengths that are desirable in many career fields.