NMU’s English Writing Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

**Occupations**
- Author
- Broadcasting
- Columnist
- Copy Editor
- Copy Writer
- Creative Writers
- Editor
- Free-lance Writer
- Lyricist
- Poet
- Program Director
- Publicity and Promotion
- Reporter
- Script Writer
- Speech/Drama Coach
- Technical Writer
- University/College Relations

**Additional Resources and Info**

**For Career Planning and Opportunities:**
Academic & Career Advisement Center
3302.1 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2971
www.nmu.edu/acac

English Department
3200 Jamrich Hall
906-227-2711
www.nmu.edu/english

**For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:**
Career Services
3302.3 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2800
www.nmu.edu/careers

**For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:**
Center for Student Enrichment
1206 University Center
906-227-2439
www.nmu.edu/cse

Passages North
myweb.nmu.edu/~passages

**Internet Resource Links:**
- www.careers.org
- www.careerresource.net

**For Career Information with National Organizations:**
- www.mla.org Modern Language Association
- www.asja.org American Society of Journalists and Authors
- www.awpwriter.org The Association of Writing and Writing Programs

Current as of Fall 2015
Provided by:

The Academic & Career Advisement Center

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**Potential Careers**

English Writing

- Author
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- Columnist
- Copy Editor
- Copy Writer
- Creative Writers
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- Free-lance Writer
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**What To Do With A Major In...**
English Writing

Are you a creative person? Do you enjoy writing stories, poems and song lyrics for fun? Have you looked into Northern’s English Writing major yet? Maybe you should.

The English Writing major consists of two areas, literature and writing. NMU’s English Writing major enables students to acquire a solid background in literature while preparing for careers that require regular, extensive writing as part of professional duties. Students in this major are required to choose two concentration areas. The concentration areas that students choose from are journalism, fiction, nonfiction, poetry, technical writing, drama, and media writing.

Skills and Competencies

As in most other fields, strong interpersonal communication and organizational skills are a must for any professional. Some other valuable skills and competencies specific to a profession in the English area include critical analysis, motivational and self discipline. Creativity doesn’t have to be your strongest suit, but you should be able to present your work in a clear, logical manner regardless of topic.

Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with liberal studies and graduation requirements.

Core
EN 493 Senior Seminar: The English Professional (2 cr.)

Literature Component
EN 282 Introduction to Literature (4 cr.)
Literature Electives (6-8 cr.)
Literary Surveys or Period Courses (6-8)
See website at bottom for list of courses to choose from.

Writing Component
EN 205 Introduction to Professional Writing (1 cr.)

Concentration (12-20)
Select from at least two of the following areas. At least 8 credit hours must be at the 400 level.
- Journalism
- Fiction
- Nonfiction
- Poetry
- Technical Writing
- Drama
- Media Writing
See website at bottom for courses within each concentration.

Cognates (0-8 cr.)
See website below for additional courses and major requirements.

Detailed course descriptions can be found at www.nmu.edu/bulletin.

Career Development

You should begin the resume-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your resume and look for jobs related to your field. In the meantime, the more hands-on experience you have, the better the chances are that you will find a job. Becoming involved in a professional related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

Additional Considerations

Previous experience or internships in creative writing fields can increase your chances of employment greatly.

Most technical writing careers are geared toward a specific area such as business, fashion, medical, law, etc. It is necessary to have a strong background in these fields.

Additional schooling beyond a Bachelors Degree may be required for any type of teaching profession.

Job Outlook

Starting salaries are contingent upon geographic location and the individual applicant’s work experience and initiative, and usually range from $30,000 to $55,000, but increase with completion of additional degrees. Different careers make varied amounts of money. Writing and related fields are expected to grow at an average rate, expecting to jump by 10%.