

# ENGLISH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

## English and Comparative Literature (ECL) at Goldsmiths: Some future career paths

A degree in English opens up a wide range of careers by developing critical and analytical skills, proficiency in assessing evidence, the clear expression of ideas, and the ability to bring together insights from a range of subjects. You also learn to solve problems, to think creatively, and to communicate with clarity - all of which are attractive to a variety of employers.

## What do Goldsmiths ECL graduates do? <sup>1</sup>

The majority of Goldsmiths ECL graduates who responded to the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey in 2013-14 were in some form of work, with 59.4% in full-time work, 20.4% in part-time work and 4.4% combining work with further study. 16.8% of graduates were undertaking some form of further study.

### Job titles include: <sup>1</sup>

- Youth Engagement Officer
- Editorial Intern
- English and Art Tutor
- Publishing Assistant
- Insurance Complaints Handler
- English Language Teacher
- Junior Account Executive
- Sales and Marketing Assistant
- Freelance Project Manager
- Freelance Assistant Editor
- Headhunter
- Writer

### Employers include: <sup>1</sup>

- DAZED (youth and pop culture magazine)
- JB Leitch (solicitors)
- Hurricane Productions (theatre company)
- The Rag Factory (art gallery)
- Lost Theatre
- City and Hackney Mind (mental health charity)
- EBR Media Ltd (magazine publisher)
- Alcantara Consultancy Services
- Sharnbrook School
- Hackney Citizen (newspaper)
- Citywire (finance news and information agency)
- Taylor & Francis Group (academic publisher)

<sup>1</sup>Source: *Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education*  
This data is collected six months after graduation and shows where graduates start their careers

**After English** is a website for graduates of English who may be unsure of their future career direction. Unlike students studying a vocational subject, the choices you are faced with may seem unclear and varied. After English will give you some ideas to help kick-start your thinking about future possibilities.

[afterenglish.ac.uk](http://afterenglish.ac.uk)

## Skills breakdown for BA English

Employers from all sectors will be interested in the skills you will gain as a student of English. The table overleaf shows how a variety of skills are developed throughout the programme.

Skills and Competencies	How and where they are developed in the programme		
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<b>Critical and analytical skills</b>	Basic critical and analytic engagement with literary texts, socio-historical contexts, visual images, performances, and film in a variety of genres. Ability to apply skills of close analysis to these elements within a diverse variety of contexts. Ability to handle ideas in rational, critical and evaluative ways.	Intermediate critical and analytic engagement with literary texts, socio-historical context, visual images, performances, music, sound and film in a variety of genres. Ability to apply skills of close analysis to these elements within a diverse variety of contexts. Ability to handle ideas in rational, critical and evaluative ways.	Critical and analytic engagement with literary texts, socio-historical context, visual images, performances, music, sound and film in a variety of genres. Ability to apply skills of close analysis to these elements within a diverse variety of contexts. Ability to handle ideas in rational, critical and evaluative ways.
<b>Adaptability</b>	Basic ability to respond to issues and ideas raised in class, within the context of the ideas of the course.	Intermediate ability to respond to issues and ideas raised in class, within the context of the ideas of the course.	Advanced ability to respond to issues and ideas raised in class, and in one's own research, within the context of the ideas of the course.
<b>Flexibility</b>	Ability to handle ideas in rational, critical and evaluative ways.	Ability to handle ideas in rational, critical and evaluative ways taking into consideration different perspectives and contexts.	Ability to respond to a diverse set of ideas in rational, critical and evaluative ways within the context of different courses and independent research
<b>Numeracy and literacy</b>	Basic ability to produce written work to adequate professional standards in organisation, relevance, expression, referencing and bibliography.	Intermediate ability to produce written work to adequate professional standards in organisation, relevance, expression, referencing and bibliography.	Advanced ability to produce written work to adequate professional standards in organisation, relevance, expression, referencing and bibliography.
<b>Creativity</b>	Basic ability to develop skills leading to the understanding of research questions and to explore these by making relevant links between materials.	Intermediate ability to develop research questions and to explore these by making informed links between materials.	Advanced ability to develop nuanced and perceptive and relevant research questions and to explore these by making innovative links between materials.

The Careers Service has a full programme of events - you can find out more at [www.gold.ac.uk/careers](http://www.gold.ac.uk/careers)  
From the moment you arrive at Goldsmiths you can use us to help you plan your future - pop in and book an appointment with a careers consultant.

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