Read widely, think deeply and write boldly. Explore language as a powerful means of creating, communicating and clarifying. Craft essays, stories and poems; hone practical analytical and communication skills; and receive advanced training in innovative reading and educational practices.

3 study options

**English teaching**
Feed your passion for words in preparation for teaching grades 5-12 English language arts. In addition to your English classes, you’ll take courses in an education department that is one of only 4 in Iowa to be CAEP-accredited.

**Literature**
Explore texts broadly and deeply through story, poetry and nonfiction. Along with courses covering Shakespeare and Twain, you can take classes like Literature of the Developing World and Native American Literature.

**Writing and rhetoric**
Develop your creative and persuasive skills by writing in many genres from creative nonfiction to analytic essays, poetry to fiction, journalism to professional writing. You’ll add a second major or minor so that you have a specific field of writing expertise. The choice is yours: history, art, political science, public relations, religion or wherever your interests lead you.

**Faculty**
Northwestern’s English professors have a wide variety of reading and writing interests and expertise, from poetry-and-prayer to environmental and agricultural literature to linguistics. The faculty includes published writers as well as specialists in writing pedagogy.

**Reading and writing community**
Northwestern English majors are a tight-knit community. Close relationships develop through reading the same books and sharing your writing with professors and peers who will offer honest praise and constructive criticism. Small classes invite open, intimate discussion, and faculty members meet with students regularly for individual writing conferences.

**Publish**
- Published annually, *Spectrum*, Northwestern’s literary journal, features student fiction, nonfiction and poetry.
- The student-run newspaper, the *Beacon*, enables student journalists and columnists to report and express opinions on campus-wide issues.
- Student writers contribute to *Wordhord*, the English department’s biannual newsletter for students and alumni.

**Storied lives**
Northwestern English graduates are award-winning teachers and authors. They have pursued graduate degrees at Brown, Princeton, William & Mary, and the University of Massachusetts. From a New England author to a Michigan lawyer to an Alaskan middle school teacher, NWC English alumni have great stories.

To learn more about our professors and students, and see what graduates are doing:

nwciowa.edu/english