

# ENGLISH

## Program Description

Colorado Mesa University offers a Bachelor of Arts in English or English Secondary Education, a Professional Certificate in Editing and Technical Communication, and a graduate certificate in Rhetoric and Literary Studies. Students gain breadth as they read widely in world, British, and American literatures, and they gain depth as they engage contemporary literary theory, linguistics, and rhetoric. With the intense focus on writing and critical thinking, graduates will be well prepared as they enter master and doctoral programs, law school, library science programs, or move directly into the work force as public relations reps, guidance counselors, technical writers, or administrators at institutions related to the arts.

Opportunities abound as they hone their craft in poetry, fiction, and creative non-fiction workshops. Students may join the Creative Writers Club or work as an editor for CMU's own literary magazine, *The Literary Review*, *Horizon Magazine*, or *Pinyon Poetry*, a nationally-circulating literary periodical. These opportunities provide invaluable experience and prepare students for careers that value creative and insightful employees.

For those with an interest in teaching, students gain expertise in literature and language that prepares them to focus on teaching as they design assignments, learn pedagogical theories, work closely with local middle and high school teachers, and complete student teaching internships. The Center for Teacher Education offers a comprehensive program of study that leads to licensure in Colorado. The secondary licensure program provides teacher education candidates with broad content knowledge in English and prepares them as teachers for grades 7 through 12.

Above all, by reading, interpreting, and evaluating complex literature, theories, and criticism, students learn to organize ideas, assert and defend claims, and research. Employers will value their ability to solve problems and present ideas in effective language to a wide range of audiences. They learn how to weigh evidence, identify assumptions, evaluate persuasive appeals, and recognize faulty reasoning. Employers want smart, flexible, and creative employees, all hallmarks of a Colorado Mesa University graduate in English.

The English minor interests students who want to broaden their backgrounds in the liberal arts as well as embark on careers that demand an expertise in critical thinking, close reading, and writing, such as law, journalism, advertising, theatre, business, public service, or graduate study in other academic and professional subjects. The Professional Certificate in Editing and Technical Communication, an interdisciplinary credential that combines copy editing, technical writing expertise, and design courses, is designed for those who want a career improving, producing, and sharing documents. For those who want to pursue graduate work, we offer a Graduate Certificate in Rhetoric and Literary Studies delivered online. The certificate offers a range of courses, from composition theory and British and American literature to literary theory, linguistics, and creative writing.

## Contact Information

Department of Languages, Literature and Mass Communication  
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## Programs of Study Bachelors/Minors

- [Education: Secondary Education, English \(BA\)](#)
- [English \(BA\)](#)
- [English \(Minor\)](#)
- [Literature, English \(BA\)](#)
- [Writing, English \(BA\)](#)

## Certificates

- [Editing and Technical Communication \(Professional Certificate\)](#)

## Graduate

- [Rhetoric and Literary Studies \(Graduate Certificate\)](#)