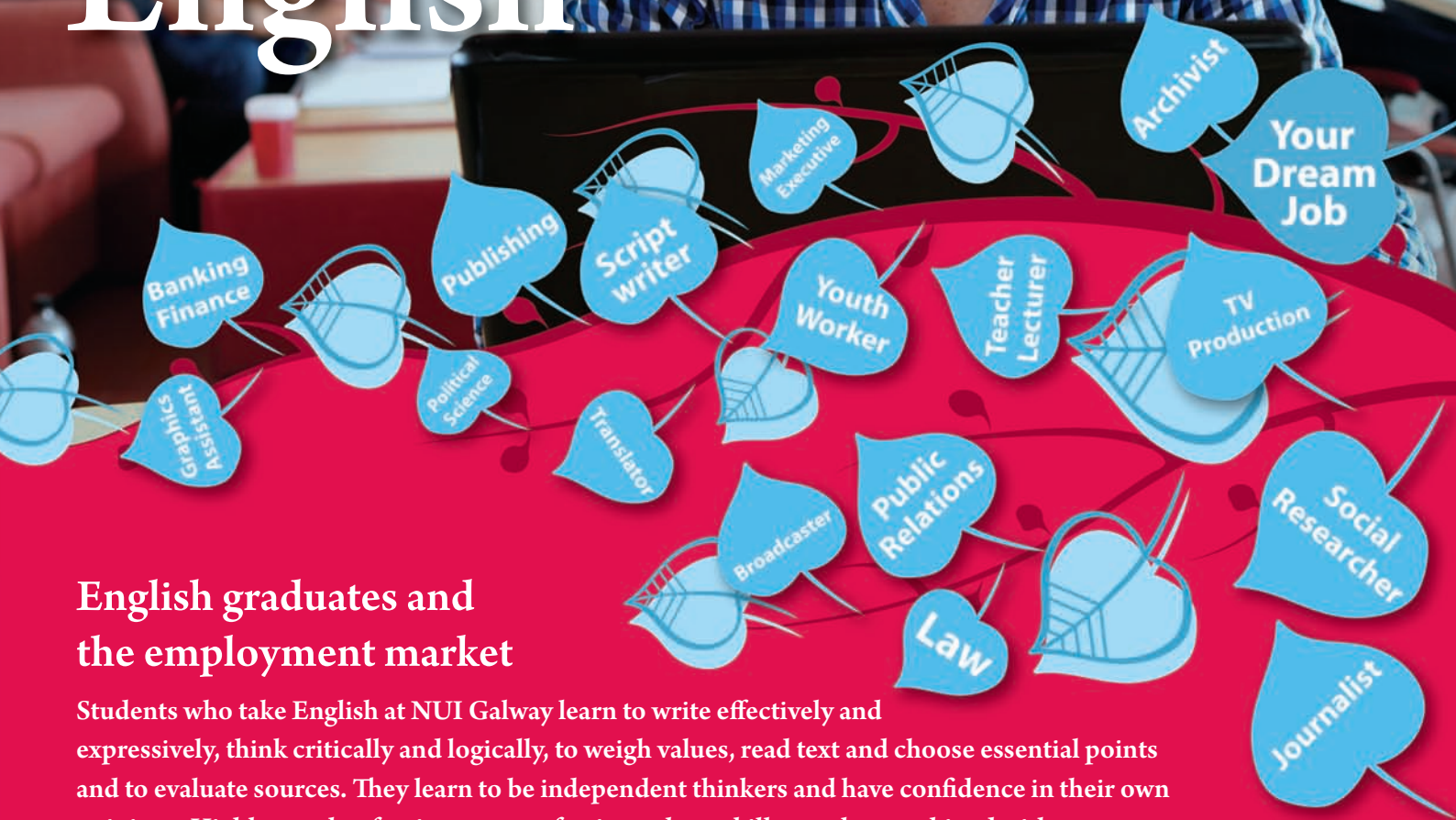




Your Career with an Arts Degree

Careers with English



English graduates and the employment market

Students who take English at NUI Galway learn to write effectively and expressively, think critically and logically, to weigh values, read text and choose essential points and to evaluate sources. They learn to be independent thinkers and have confidence in their own opinions. Highly sought after in many professions, these skills are also combined with:

- Editing and Research skills
- Creative writing
- Flexibility, imagination
- Ability to use own initiative
- Use of methodologies to collect, quantify, analyse and interpret data
- Critical thinking techniques
- Produce logical arguments supported by evidence
- Communication skills – oral and written
- IT, information retrieval and presentation skills
- Self-discipline, self-direction, independence of mind and initiative alongside an ability to work with others
- Organisation and time management skills
- Goal achievement and an ability to meet deadlines

Source: "Degrees of Skill: Student Employability Profiles"
The Higher Education Academy.



Typical jobs for English graduates

English graduates find employment in diverse fields. Here are some of the most popular career destinations for our English graduates:

*Teacher • Journalist • Copywriter • Scriptwriter • IT design and consultancy
 Editor • Creative Writer • Computer gaming • Arts administrator
 Advertising consultant • Diplomatic service • Civil service
 Reporter on television or radio • Media consultant • Publisher
 Technical writer • Librarian • Legal assistant • Public Relations consultant
 TEFL teacher • Financial services • Translator • Speech and language therapist*

Note: Further qualifications may be needed for certain positions. This list is a sample of positions available.

Boosting your employability as a English Graduate

English graduates may find employment in a variety of areas depending on their skills and experience. Some graduates choose to work in writing-related fields including journalism, technical writing, publishing, public relations, and advertising as well as other careers which could include banking, civil service, tourism, retail, education, libraries, social services among others.

All these careers require the skills of research, analysis, and writing, for which a degree in English is excellent preparation.

Work experience is also a key issue and any experience you have to add to your CV will be a bonus. Volunteering is also an excellent way of adding experience to your CV.

The Career Development Centre at NUI Galway has some reference books that may help find work experience and some of the websites listed at the end of this leaflet also offer many opportunities.

There are some publications that may help keep you up-to-date. These publications also have many advertisements from companies and consultancies and so can help also with job search and may be available to reference in the Careers library.

Career Destinations of our English Graduates

It is useful to know what fellow graduates have done after obtaining their degree at NUI Galway. The following are some of the roles our English graduates took up after graduation:

- English Language Assistant, Berlin
- Resource Teacher, VEC
- Clerical Worker, Dept of Social Protection
- Primary School Teacher, International School of Choueifat-Dubai
- Teaching English in Spain
- Researcher for PBS News, USA
- Freelance writer

(Source: NUI Galway First Destinations Survey)



What Postgraduate Courses do English Graduates do?

For certain career choices, employers may look for candidates with further qualifications and training. Our English graduates frequently choose one of the following postgraduate programmes at NUI Galway:

MA (Journalism)	Professional Diploma in Education
MA (Literature & Publishing)	T.E.F.L.
MA (Writing)	HDip (Business Studies)
MA (Film Studies)	MA in Culture and Colonialism
MA (Drama & Theatre Studies)	MA in Irish Studies
Structured PhD	MA in Medieval Studies



Other postgraduate programmes undertaken by previous English graduates include:

MA (Broadcast Journalism), Sheffield University
 TEFL, UL
 MA (Journalism), DCU
 HDip in Montessori Teaching, St. Nicholas Montessori College
 MA (Publishing), Oxford Brookes University
 Media Production Radio Journalism, GTI Galway
 MA (Linguistics), Trinity College Dublin
 PGCE Primary, Aberdeen
 MA (Journalism and Media), GCD

For information on studying in Ireland and studying abroad with useful links for many countries worldwide visit:
www.nuigalway.ie/careers

www.postgradireland.com also has useful information on postgraduate courses in Ireland,

www.prospects.ac.uk is an excellent site for researching opportunities in the UK and
<http://ec.europa.eu/ploteus/> covers the EU.

What our students say...



Hannah Healy
Bachelor of Arts

"There are many reasons why I chose to attend NUI Galway. It's a great campus with a fun atmosphere and many events taking place! I chose to study Arts because it gives you a wide variety of subjects to choose from, so it seemed the best option for me. I hope to do a postgraduate programme in Public Relations once I'm finished.

Being from Galway, I enjoyed the comfort of always being welcomed by a familiar face. Having said that I still wanted the other advantage of college life, meeting new people and getting involved in all the great clubs and societies NUI Galway had to offer. In first year I joined the Surf Club and went on numerous weekend and day trips throughout the year and the craic you have on those is unbelievable!

NUI Galway is a great university with such friendly open-minded people and I'm sure whoever decides to attend Galway will love it as much as I do."

Where can I find out more?

The following websites contain relevant, interesting information on career opportunities with a degree in English

www.whystudyenglish.ac.uk

Professional Publishers Association: www.ppa.co.uk

www.bookcareers.com

Nat. Union Journalists: www.nuj.org.uk

www.journalismuk.co.uk/links.htm

Career Development Centre, degree opportunities:

www.nuigalway.ie/careers/students/degreeopp.html

Gradireland: www.gradireland.com

Prospects UK English profile: www.prospects.ac.uk/options_english_your_skills.htm

www.jobs.ac.uk [academic jobs, fellowships etc UK, Europe and worldwide]



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh