

RESOURCES AND STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Directed by the Department of English and Writing, the Saunders Writing Center provides one-on-one peer tutoring to help sharpen writing skills. The Center is often staffed by English and Writing undergraduate students. Tutors typically focus on required academic writing but will provide resources for any genre at any stage of the drafting or revision process.

UT hosts a chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the international English honor society. Students with a qualifying GPA can apply for membership to this organization, which works to promote interest in literature and writing at UT and hosts a variety of scholarship and service activities.



INTERNSHIPS

Students from the English department gain real-world experience through a rich variety of internship opportunities. Previous internships have allowed students to hone their communication skills at print and digital publications, local and national media outlets, non-profits, government and production studios. Internship opportunities have included:

- **American Red Cross**
- **Straz Center for the Performing Arts**
- **City of Tampa mayor’s office**
- **Parenting Magazine**
- **Her Campus**
- **Creative Loafing**
- **MyArea Network**
- **Global Girls Initiative**
- **UT Press for *Studies in the Fantastic***



Department of English and Writing

ALUMNI

- Lily Connolly ('21)** Attended Oxford University for a Master’s in creative writing
- Evan Henderson ('20)** Former intern in Tampa Mayor Jane Castor’s office. Henderson also pursued a Master’s program in Public Administration at Florida Atlantic University
- Mauricio Rich Taraschi ('19)** Marketing and corporate communications associate for Solute Ingenieros in Madrid, Spain
- Michael Hagen Treadway ('18)** Curriculum Designer in Online Learning for Hillsborough Community College
- Madison Erhardt ('17)** Global marketing operations manager at AgileThought, Tampa, FL
- Claire Farrow ('17)** Digital media producer, WTSP-TV, St. Petersburg, FL
- Lauren Milici ('15)** Published her chapbook *Final Girl* in 2019. She released her second poetry collection in 2022

DEGREE OPTIONS

UT’s English and Writing department offers two majors: a Bachelor’s of Art in English and a Bachelor’s of Art in Writing.

Students pursuing the major in English (B.A.) will obtain a foundation in the critical study of literature and language. Students will explore enduring questions about identity, difference, culture and social change as expressed in literary texts and in cutting-edge approaches to scholarship. A minor in English is also available.

Specializing in either Creative Writing or Professional Writing & Publishing, students majoring in Writing (B.A.) gain extensive experience crafting various forms of written communication, both by carefully reading the works of others and producing their own texts. A minor in Writing is also available.

The department offers a Minor in Professional and Technical Writing that provides guided practice in designing and producing the kinds of visual and verbal communication expected in the workplace. Finally, the department offers a certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).

ABOUT UT’S ENGLISH AND WRITING DEPARTMENT

The Department of English and Writing at the University of Tampa is a community of students and scholars dedicated to the study of language, literature and writing. Students learn to read carefully and analyze writing in diverse historical and cultural contexts. They practice the critical thinking, research and writing skills necessary to produce original essays, creative works and print and digital publications. By the time students graduate with a degree in English or Writing, they will have developed the disciplined thinking and communication skills necessary to succeed in the professional world and graduate study.

WHY PURSUE ENGLISH AND WRITING DEGREES AT UT

The English and Writing program prepares students to be polished writers, analytical readers and adept critical thinkers. Students pursuing an English major or Writing major can personalize their curriculum by selecting from courses on a variety of literary subjects and writing genres. This enables them to develop a comprehensive knowledge of the history of literature as well as skills in demand in the fields of creative and professional writing. English and Writing faculty teach students how to read not only texts but the world around them, to think critically about issues facing them and their communities and to effectively communicate in creative and professional contexts.

DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY

Students participate in various events hosted by the department to encourage community-building, scholarly engagement and professional exploration. Student- and faculty-led events include poetry and prose readings, performances, Brown Bag talks, book swaps, open houses, Ghosts in the Cellar, Dark Valentine’s Day, Trivia Night and career talks.



To learn more about UT’s Department of English and Writing, visit ut.edu/englishandwriting



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FACULTY PROFILES



KACY DOWD TILLMAN

Professor, English and Writing;
Co-Director/Honors Program

Kacy Dowd Tillman specializes in American life writing, particularly by loyalist women during the American Revolution. She is the author of *Stripped and Script: Loyalist Women Writers of the American Revolution* and many peer-reviewed articles. Her next project is *The Information Contagion*, which explores the intersections of fake news and the rhetoric of disease in early American fiction. She is also Co-Director of the Honors Program.



YULY RESTREPO GARCÉS

Associate Teaching
Professor, English

Yuly Restrepo Garcés was born in Medellín, Colombia, and came to the United States twenty years ago as an asylee. She is especially interested in short fiction and crime fiction, which she explores in both her writing and teaching. Her work has previously appeared in *Tampa Bay Noir*, *CutBank*, *Catapult*, *PRISM International*, *Natural Bridge* and *Zone 3*. She is an Iowa Writers’ Workshop graduate, a MacDowell fellow, an associate teaching professor of English at the University of Tampa and editor of *Tampa Review*.



INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM

English and Writing students take classes that broaden their knowledge of global literary genres, periods, movements, media and techniques. Faculty draw on their expertise to lead students through intriguing problems and themes that shape literature. Students benefit from small class sizes, which facilitate open dialogue, collaborative projects and faculty feedback.

Sample courses include:

- Horror Literature and Film
- Nature and Environmental Writing
- Fiction Forms
- Technical and Professional Editing
- Inequality in Past and Present
- Writing for Interactive Media
- The Modes of Modernity
- Identity and Difference



LITERARY VISITS

Students have a unique opportunity to meet and interact with acclaimed literary figures during Writers at the University events and the Scholars’ Symposia. Renowned writers, professors, editors and publishers visit campus for readings, lectures and question-and-answer sessions. Held throughout the year, these events enrich the perspective of students. Past guests have included Kinitra Brooks, Peter Coviello, Cord Whitaker, Michael Connelly, Arthur Flowers, Nick Flynn, Colson Whitehead, Francine Prose, Amy Hill Hearth, Terrance Hayes, Miranda July, Tracy K. Smith and George Saunders.



WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH THIS MAJOR?

Proficient in analysis, critical thinking, problem-solving and communication, English and Writing majors find success in a variety of diverse professions and fields of graduate study. After graduation, they often find positions in education, advertising, journalism, public relations, publishing, media (film, TV and radio), government agencies and nonprofit organizations. Some graduates further their education by attending law school or pursuing a master’s degree or Ph.D. Schools attended by UT English and Writing alumni include University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop, University of Oxford, University of Florida and Georgetown University.

ALUMNA PROFILE



ALYSIA LI YING SAWCHYN

Graduation Year: Fall 2011

Major: Writing Minor: English

After graduating from UT, Alysia completed an MA at Ball State University and an MFA in Creative Writing-Creative Nonfiction at the University of South Florida. In 2020, she published her debut essay collection *A Fish Growing Lungs*, a Believer Award finalist and became Editor-in-Chief at *The Rumpus*, a literary magazine based in Washington DC.



DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA

English and Writing students have ample opportunities to publish their writing and work in real-world editorial and business environments, often earning credit in the process. Publication opportunities include:

- *The Minaret*, UT’s award-winning student newspaper
- *Neon*, a student literary and arts journal
- *Tampa Review*, an award-winning literary magazine
- *The Moroccan*, UT’s student yearbook
- *Royal Road*, a journal of undergraduate research
- *Studies in the Fantastic*, a peer-reviewed scholarly journal