Choose your path to one of the most flexible and useful degrees.

The literature track, leading to a B.A., represents a traditional English degree program rooted in literature surveys and upper-division course work in major writers and special topics.

The writing track combines study of literature with a variety of creative writing workshop experiences. Students can develop expertise in writing fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction. This track leads to a B.A.

The professional and digital media writing track, leading to a B.A., prepares students for a variety of writing fields in the corporate, educational, nonprofit, and governmental spheres. Students take classes in specialties such as journalism, technical writing, writing for the web, and advertising and public relations.

The creative writing track, leading to a B.A., is designed for students who want to develop their skills in the writing of fiction, poetry, and/or creative non-fiction. The coursework combines literary studies and upper-level writing courses, particularly geared toward the creative writer.

Two education tracks:

The secondary education track gives students who aspire to teach the chance to pursue a B.S. degree in English. They study literature and classroom methodology so they can become effective, certified middle- and high-school teachers.

The secondary education with special education track prepares beginning educators to meet the needs of a diverse population of individuals and their families. This track also leads to a B.S. degree.

The department also offers an 18-credit English minor and a 12-credit certificate of business writing, both of which provide students with marketable skills useful in any major.

Professional writers looking to advance in their careers or individuals seeking new careers may wish to pursue ESU’s online Master of Arts in professional and digital media writing. Visit esu.edu/graduate for details.

Notice of Non-Discrimination: East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania is committed to equal opportunity for its students, employees and applicants. The university is committed to providing equal educational and employment rights to all persons without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or veteran’s status. Each member of the university community has a right to study and work in an environment free from any form of racial, ethnic, and sexual discrimination including sexual harassment, sexual violence and sexual assault. (Further information, including contact information, can be found on the university’s website at esu.edu/titleix.)

In accordance with federal and state laws, the university will not tolerate discrimination. This policy is placed in this document in accordance with state and federal laws including Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Civil Rights Act of 1991 as well as all applicable federal and state executive orders.

For assistance or special accommodations, please call 570-422-3398.
When I chose English as a major at ESU, I wanted to explore my creativity and become an expert storyteller. The department introduced me to The Stroud Courier, which was my first entry into journalism. Working on the student newspaper gave me an opportunity to strengthen my reporting and writing skills. The English department and its professors were very supportive during my time at the university and helped me develop the skills I needed to succeed in my career. As an associate producer, the most important part of my job is creating and developing good stories - a skill that I developed within the ESU English department.

-Valentina Caval ’14
Associate Producer, Discovery Channel

The Writing Studio
Established by Dr. Sandra Eckard in 2006, the Writing Studio has become the main tutoring center for writing at ESU. Each semester, the Writing Studio provides quality peer tutoring to students of all disciplines. Its mission is to help students draft, revise, and complete their writing assignments in a comfortable and welcoming environment. Students will improve their writing through guided practice, helpful tips, workshops, one-to-one tutoring sessions, handouts, and resources.

Traditional and New Course Offerings
- English Literature
- American Literature
- Shakespeare
- Contemporary Literature
- British Romanticism
- Literature and Film
- Major Writer
- American Poetry
- American Novel
- The Graphic Novel
- News Reporting and Writing
- Professional Writing: Magazine Journalism
- Professional Writing: Public Relations
- Professional Writing: Website Writing and Design
- Script Writing
- Creative Writing: Fiction, Poetry, or Non-fiction
- Teaching Multicultural Literature
- Freelance Writing

Career and Advanced Degree Options
Graduates of the program become teachers and administrators, writers and editors, and directors of communications and public relations programs. Many of the program’s graduates have earned graduate degrees in English, journalism, and communications. Others have entered law school or M.B.A. programs.

Campus Life Involvement
English majors write, edit, and publish The Stroud Courier, the campus newspaper; and Calliope, the literary magazine filled with poetry, fiction, and non-fiction. They host poetry readings, participate in English conferences, and get involved in other activities and organizations, including theatre, the student-run radio station, and student government.

Awards and Scholarships
The English Department recognizes its top juniors and seniors with honors and endowed awards for outstanding majors and distinctive achievements in journalism and creative writing. Some of the scholastic achievement awards include the Esther Larson Outstanding English Major Award, the Jim Barniak Journalism Award, the Shelby Starner Award for Writing on Social Justice, the Martin Writing Awards, and the Robert C. Walker III ’97 Annual Scholarship, which is given to students dedicated to the success of The Stroud Courier.