USM English Department

Alumni Survey

Complied by:

Office of Academic Assessment

University of Southern Maine

(Summer/2014)
English Department- Alumni Survey (N = 37)

Survey Items

1. Degree will/did receive
   - English Major 100%
   - English Minor 0%

2. With my English education I am prepared to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>NA</th>
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<tbody>
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   a. Communicate effectively in a professional setting.
      2%  8%  11%  27%  50%  2%

   b. Succeed in a post-baccalaureate study.
      5%  5%  5%  8%  58%  19%

   c. Contribute to society as broadly educated, articulate, and ethical citizen.
      2%  0%  11%  16%  65%  6%

   d. Obtain a desired job.
      11%  11%  19%  24%  27%  8%

Open-ended responses: All individual responses are listed for each of the following questions, if more than one person responded the same way, the number of responses is indicated in parenthesis.

3. Time spent at USM can be characterized by an English Major/Minor as:
   - Great faculty  (5 responses)
   - I worked hard and was rewarded for it. (2 responses)
   - Time well spent. (2 responses)
   - My love of literature really solidified while I was at USM.
   - The program built a good educational foundation for me.
   - Without my training in English, the people I met there and the contacts I made, the personal achievements I have made in my life would not be possible.
   - USM afforded me the ability to immerse myself in analytical study.
• My focus was Journalism.
• Courses are challenging and engaging.
• Fantastic experience at USM
• I found a home in the English department
• Enjoyed my “interdisciplinary” approach to learning.
• Course of study was rigorous but enjoyable
• Able to take classes and work at the same time
• Great experience at USM
• Personally satisfying
• Prepared me for law school

4. The English degree program at USM offers:

• Great faculty (4 responses)
• Challenging programs (2 responses)
• Offers diversified approaches and content (2 responses)
• Amazing program (2 responses)
• Friendly department (2 responses)
• Make you a tactical thinker and speaker
• Rewarding
• Not just about literature and reading
• Provides great foundations
• Program teaches you about history, philosophy and politics
• Sharpens your writing skills
• Demanding but a rewarding major
• Creative writing program is great
• Prepares you to be a teacher
• Covers newer and more applicable topics to today’s world
• Writing intensive

5. The English major/minor led me to a job, graduate or professional study in:

• Graduate school (4 responses)
• Job in reporting Went to Law school (3 responses)
• Went to Law school (3 responses)
• My BA did not produce any job prospects (2 responses)
• Job in reporting
• Written two novels
• Part-time teller at a bank
• Work for Forecaster Newspaper
• Pursuing a Master’s Degree in Library Science
• Pursuing a Master’s Degree in Applied English Linguistics
• Working in educational nonprofit work
• Working as a substitute teacher
• Higher Education Administrator
• Went on to get my MFA from the Stonecoast Program
• Started my own proofreading company
• In USM’s ETEP program
6. **Currently employed**

   a. Full-time 68%
   
   b. Part-time 21%
   
   c. Not currently employed 11%

7. **Current employment areas:**
   
   - Education (8 responses)
   - Government (4 responses)
   - Non-Profit/Social Service (4 responses)
   - Business/Industry (3 responses)
   - Self-employed (3 responses)
   - Hospital/Health Care (2 responses)
   - Arts/Music/Culture (1 response)
   - Research (1 response)

8. **Current Place of Employment**

   - Portland, ME
   - CIEE Portland, ME
   - UNE, Portland, ME
   - UNUM, Portland, ME
   - USM-Admission Office, Portland, ME
   - Portland Proof, Portland ME
   - Augusta, ME
   - Maine State Legislature, Augusta ME
   - Pathway Vineyard Church, Lewiston ME
   - Barns, Greenfield & Thornton, LLC (law firm), Falmouth, ME
   - Gorham Middle School, Gorham ME
   - Town of Gorham, Gorham ME
   - Gorham High School, Gorham ME
   - Piscataqua Landscaping and Tree Service, Eliot, ME
   - Sirona Health
   - Washington, DC
   - Anne Arundel community college, Arnold, Maryland
   - Madison, WI
   - Isotropic Fiction, LLC (telecommute) Sante Fe, New Mexico
   - Pacific Coast Farmers’ Market Association, Concord, CA