

English Literature at De Montfort University (DMU) - Employability Skills

While you are learning about literature, theory, film and adaptation studies you may not be considering how your work on these topics will help you in your career after graduation.

However, studying English teaches a range of transferable skills that make English graduates extremely employable and sought after in the workplace. Humanities students often go on to forge successful careers in a range of industries, including those that you might not immediately associate with English and the Humanities.

Did you know?

- Oscar winning director **Steven Spielberg** learnt the art of storytelling by studying English at university.
- The former CEO of the **Walt Disney Company** specialised in English and theatre at university.
- **Google employs 4,000-5,000 Humanities graduates:** Damon Horowitz, Director of Engineering at Google (with a PhD in Philosophy) says: "You go into the humanities to pursue your intellectual passion; and it just so happens, as a by-product, that you emerge as a desired commodity for industry".
- **DMU's English graduates** have gone on to work in a range of careers including banking, the civil service, marketing, public relations, publishing and teaching.

Studying English Literature at DMU gives you the opportunity to learn a number of key workplace skills that you can apply to a variety of careers.

Reading skills:

- Reading and comprehending information quickly.
- Thinking critically about what you are reading.
- Expanding and synthesising your knowledge by reading secondary sources.
- The ability to think, reflect, and judge independently.

Time Management skills:

- The ability to organise your time to complete all the reading before your week's workshops.
- Planning your time effectively to research and write longform essays.

Interpersonal skills:

- Expressing your thoughts and opinions clearly and effectively.
- Listening to the ideas of others and using them to develop and expand your own opinions.
- Negotiation skills: the ability to listen, compromise and agree.
- The ability to work as part of a team.
- Creative and innovative thinking and idea formulation.

