ENGLISH (BA):
http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/academics/1714.php
"English majors read, discuss, and write about literature, film, popular culture and the law from a variety of perspectives. In doing so, they build skills in critical reading and analysis, verbal presentation, argumentation, and persuasive writing. In John Jay’s unique English curriculum, students acquire a comprehensive and varied foundation in literary study, and then choose either an optional concentration in Literature and the Law or pursue the field of Literature in greater depth."

Skills, Abilities and Objectives for English Majors:
- Assess and respond to the needs of staff/co-workers/audience
- Develop written and oral communication skills
- Develop critical evaluation and application skills
- Develop and apply hypotheses to solve problems
- Edit effectively
- Influence and persuade others
- Present and scrutinize alternative viewpoints
- Synthesize ideas and themes

Transferring Skills to Careers:
The skills above prepare English majors for a range of professional degrees and career options. *The list below does not include all possible professional paths available to students who major in English* but gives a sample of careers graduates have chosen to pursue. The comprehensive and analytical skills developed by English majors are applicable to positions such as:

- Research Assistant
- Creative and Technical Writer
- Programmer/Analyst
- Journalist/Editor/Writer
- Attorney
- Public Relations Manager
- Psychologist
- Politician
- Foreign Service Officer
- Library Media Specialist
- Industrial Analyst
- English Professor/Teacher
- Web Designer
- Curriculum Planner
- City manager/Program Director
- Drama Manager/Art Critic
- Editor
- Journalist/Blogger

Strategies for Professional Development:
- Explore minors such as: Africana Studies, Computer Science, Corrections, Human Services, Economics, Counseling, Criminology, Human Rights, Psychology and Political Science to enhance your professional marketability.
- Look for internship/volunteer experiences with various social and government agencies.
- Develop and emphasize your transferable skills such as:
  - Communication
  - Research
  - Leadership/Team work
  - Critical Thinking
- Conduct informational interviews with professionals in fields of interest.
- Get involved in organizations such as the Debate Team, the Ink Club, Law Society and Sigma Tau Delta: the English Honor Society.
- Create a LinkedIn account to connect with individuals and organizations in fields of interests.
- Write for campus publications such as the *John Jay Sentinel* and *The Quill*.
- Consider pursuing a master’s degree in a related career field.
Professional Associations/Organizations:
A professional association is an organization formed to promote and support the development, growth and work efforts of individuals in a particular career field. Membership benefits include networking, continuing education, mentoring programs, meetings/conferences and exclusive access to information regarding career opportunities.

There is often a fee for joining professional organizations; however, most associations offer discounts to students, including graduate school students, recent graduates, and young professionals. All or a portion of associations’ fees are tax deductible. To learn more about professional associations, see the National Trade and Professional Associations Directory, the American Society of Association Executives or Encyclopedia of Associations: Volume I- National Organizations of the U.S. is available in the Reference section of John Jay College’s Lloyd Sealy Library.

- American Society of Magazine Editors
  http://www.asme.magazine.org

- Modern Language Association
  http://www.mla.org

- National Council of Teachers of English
  http://www.ncte.org

- American Society of Journalists and Authors
  http://www.asja.org

- Investigative Reporters and Editors
  http://www.ire.org

- Public Relations Society of America
  http://www.prsa.org

- American Association of Advertising Agencies
  http://www.aaaa.org

- The Association for Women in Communications
  http://www.womcom.org

Additional Resources:
- Occupational Outlook Handbook - Writers and Authors
  http://www.bls.gov/ooh/media-and-communication/writers-and-authors.htm

- Occupational Outlook Handbook - Teachers
  http://stats.bls.gov/oco/ocos069.htm

- Creative Writer - Tasks Performed & Skills Required (O*NET)
  http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/27-3043.02

- Reporters and Correspondents - Tasks Performed & Skills Required (O*NET)
  http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/27-3022.00

- Career Overview - Advertising and Public Relations
  http://www.careeroverview.com/advertising-careers.html
For more information on this major please visit:
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524 West 59th Street
New York, NY 10019
Room: 7.63.03
(212) 237-8909
Caroline Reitz, Coordinator: creitz@jjay.cuny.edu
http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/departments/english/about.php

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524 West 59th Street
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Room: L73
(646) 557-4872 / (646) 557-4816
http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/academics/4032.php