

Bucknell
UNIVERSITY

ENGLISH MAJORS
going places





Jennifer Langione '12

I am currently working in New York as an Account Coordinator at TMPG, a promotional media company that focuses on radio endorsements, digital promotions and experiential marketing. When I went in for my job interview, the manager said she was intrigued by my English – Creative Writing major. She saw that I had a lot of writing experience since I tutored at the Writing Center and blogged for The Huffington Post and was curious why I was interested in marketing. Since I started working, I've realized how essential writing is for producing campaign scripts and project briefs. The fact that I was hired over business major candidates proves that English is a versatile major and the skills I honed at Bucknell are extremely valuable.



Samantha Bower '12

Bucknell was and still is the enabling factor in my decision to pursue my Master of Arts in Teaching at Bard College. The education I received from the English Department prepared me to analyze the diversity of texts I am currently studying in both my education and subject classes. Furthermore, the professors and staff at Bucknell are so impressionable that their classroom presence has stayed with while I work to develop my own teaching styles. Without their great support, I would not be living the dream in New York City. The comprehensiveness of my Bucknell education not only applies to my classes, but it has also helped me to communicate and make connections with future employers. My four years spent at Bucknell, both academically and socially, changed my life perspective for the better, and is an investment I will never regret.



John Gallagher '06

Majoring in English helped prepare me for a PhD and becoming a professor. My close relationships with faculty gave me the collaborative skills to professionally publish. The faculty's insight and passion assisted in developing my writing and analytical skills. My current research, about the nature of audience and the internet, was inculcated during my four years at Bucknell. In fact, I model my curricula off the wonderful personalities of the English faculty at Bucknell.



Amanda P. Sidman '08

Amanda Sidman has been a member of the New York City media for the past four years. She is currently an Associate Producer in the Booking department of the TODAY show. Previously, she produced the “Your Eats” section at the New York Daily News, which covers the chefs, restaurants, and people behind the food trends that shape the culinary industry of New York. In addition to Eats, Amanda spearheaded The News’ Fashion Week coverage for six seasons, and wrote various lifestyle pieces for the paper’s “Your New York” section. Prior to working on the Features side of The News, Amanda was a Senior Columnist at “Gatecrasher,” the paper’s celebrity gossip column.



Lindsay Machen '11

Many educational institutions would have balked at my desire to major in English while pursuing a pre-medical track. Bucknell, however, welcomed my seemingly disparate interests and encouraged me to follow my varied passions. While my end goal has always been medicine, I didn't want to limit myself to science courses and strictly quantitative thinking during my college years. With the help of the English department, and the pre-medical advisor, I was able to fulfill

all of my requirements for both my major and my eventual graduate program. Now I am entering my second year at Penn State College of Medicine and consistently find myself referencing the English education I received at Bucknell. So much of medicine is based on a physician's ability to communicate. At Bucknell, class presentations, discussion sessions and one-on-one conversations with faculty helped me to hone my communication skills. My undergraduate classes centered on various writing assignments. Faculty expected increasingly analytic and higher level thinking. With encouragement and incredible individual attention from faculty, I was able to develop as a writer and become increasingly comfortable writing papers and presenting my thoughts in an organized manner. In medical school, humanities courses, basic chart notes and presentations to supervising faculty and advisors depend on succinct and capable writing skills. I cannot emphasize how integral the skills conferred by my English major have been to

my educational pursuits post-graduation. In addition to using the skills I developed while at Bucknell, I've succeeded in bringing my interest in English to my medical education. This summer I spent time studying the patient-provider relationship and the way in which medical students pick up on verbal clues provided by patients. I'm thrilled to have been able to incorporate a more qualitative interest into my primarily quantitative medical education, variety I attribute entirely to my education at Bucknell. I believe the Bucknell curriculum, dedication to individual development and the basic tenets of the program provide students with a set of life skills that are integral to any and all professional fields. I am so grateful for my experience at Bucknell—my major has helped shape me not only as a student but also as a person and I cannot imagine a better starting point for higher education.



Brittany Jo Flores '08

In Bucknell, I learned my passion. And my passion is to write; to tell stories; to dive into the world of the imagination and bring it to life. Once I took my first writing class at Bucknell, I knew I needed more. Getting a BA in English (Creative Writing) made me explore what I wanted to be. All I wanted to do at Bucknell was read books, explore the literary realms, and write my own stories. When I graduated, I had a bunch of short stories, poems, and other written works in my portfolio, but I felt an itch to write screenplays. I had taken a

screenwriting course abroad, but never really got to indulge myself with the craft. Perhaps I was too scared, for screenwriting is part of a very big industry that I was not familiar with at all. It was a far and distant dream. So I took all that energy, and fresh out of college, I went on to the publishing world. I was surrounded by books - my first love. But the sad truth was the economy, and the physical book world wasn't doing too well. So I ended up as a technical proposal writer. I was snatched up by a corporation that just liked the looks of my English Degree. But I hated the job. It wasn't creative at all. In fact, it was the opposite. But I had never forgotten about my creative writing courses at Bucknell. And it was then, that I began to fight to write. I constantly kept a journal by my side, another screen open on the computer, anything that would allow me to write. And I started to write screenplays. I spent all my time writing TV spec scripts, and coming up with new ideas. I was teaching myself along the way. And when I got laid off from

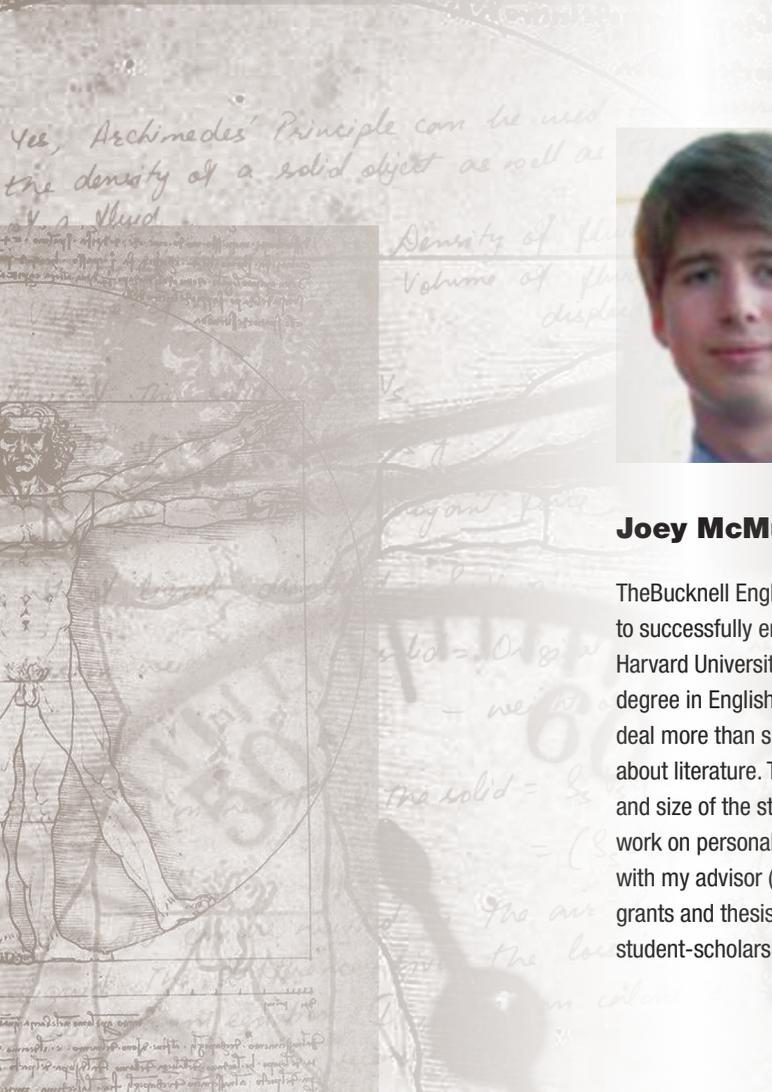
my technical writing job, I decided to apply to USC's School of Cinematic Arts. I can now proudly say that I have my MFA in Writing for Screen and Television and am taking that risk out here in Los Angeles. And I have no doubt that getting my degree in English at Bucknell was my first step in this direction. If it wasn't for the passion of the professors that I had, I may have never believed that I could build my life with this. I can only hope to repay Bucknell, one day, with a screenwriting program of its own.



Brad Feuling '03

The English degree I received from Bucknell was instrumental in helping me achieve my dreams, starting and building a company. Bucknell's smaller interactive classes with an emphasis on critical writing, helped me strengthen my oral and written communication skills, which are vital in any career. I also gained significant value from classes, which stretched my analytical thinking. In business, context and reasoning are the foundations for analytical decision-making. Without these fundamental skills, I would not have experienced important portals of discovery that have led me to where I am today.





Joey McMullen '09

The Bucknell English Department prepared me to successfully enter into a Ph.D. program at Harvard University directly after graduating. A degree in English at Bucknell meant a great deal more than simply reading and writing about literature. The willingness of the faculty and size of the student-body allowed me to work on personal research projects one-on-one with my advisor (both through summer research grants and thesis writing). This potential for student-scholarship then enabled me to present

my work at various conferences (many generously funded by the English Department) and publish before graduating. While these were important prerequisites for graduate school, the classes I took in the English Department did more than prepare me to do my own research. My classes and the interactions I had with my professors fostered an intellectual culture at Bucknell, taught insightful new ways to read literature and the world around me, and gave me a drive to succeed. I whole-heartedly believe that the English Department not only prepared me for an Ivy League Ph.D. program, but that this degree was directly responsible for my acceptance and success.

Bucknell
UNIVERSITY

Department of English
Bucknell University
Lewisburg, PA 17837
www.bucknell.edu/English