Studying English Develops Critical Thinking Skills

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Students pursuing a bachelor's degree in English typically know that the programs rarely focus on vocational training. They take courses in literature, writing, and criticism because they want to explore the work of some of the best thinkers and storytellers in the world. English studies programs, however, can help students develop skills that will help them succeed when they enter the workforce. This makes earning a bachelor's degree in English an important step towards securing a position that offers good job security and a variety of challenges.

Perhaps the most important part of any English studies program is learning to think critically. Most programs require students to take literary criticism courses that encourage them to look at prominent texts from a variety of perspectives. Critical thinking skills are then reinforced by having students write papers in support of specific theses. The best instructors often ask students to write papers about opinions other than their own. This helps them explore a wider range of thoughts and learn to support statements by citing evidence.

These critical thinking skills are important to any student considering a future in journalism, business, teaching, public relations, and just about any other field that requires them to think outside the box.

Studying English Helps Students Improve Communication Skills

Having great thoughts and knowing how to think critically doesn't mean much when a person doesn't know how to communicate well. English studies programs can also help students improve their communication skills. Reading stories, novels, and essays exposes students to various writing styles that can influence the way they communicate. Classes that reinforce standardized grammar also help students use proper English, which remains an important way to impress potential employers and clients.

Studying English also teaches students how to improve their verbal communication skills. Many programs have classes that require students to present papers to classes or even larger audiences. This fosters public speaking abilities and helps the students learn how to express their thoughts in ways that make sense to other people. With a combination of good writing and speaking communication skills, students can flourish in a wide range of work environments.

Preparing for Life After College

Although English departments do not use a vocational plan that prepares students for specific careers, they do provide classes that teach and reinforce the kinds of skills that most students will need when they enter the workforce. Knowing how to think and communicate well is the hallmark of a good liberal arts education. That's what students should get by the time they have completed their degrees in English.

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Improve your communication and critical thinking skills by taking part in a English Studies Programs.

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