Upcoming Events

- DEPT. OF ENGLISH NEW CURRICULUM INFORMATION MEETINGS
  - Feb 12
  - 10-11 a.m. 7191 HCW
  - Feb 28
  - 1-2 p.m. 7191 HCW
  - March 11
  - 3:30-4:30 6191 HCW
  - March 20
  - 3-4 p.m. 7191 HCW
  - March 24
  - 11-noon 7191 HCW

- HOW TO FIND YOUR DREAM JOB CAREER WORKSHOP
  - February 12
  - 2-3 p.m. 7191 HCW

Setting Your New Year’s Career Goals

by Karen Knipschild

Many of us create New Year’s resolutions with the best of intentions. And by February they’re forgotten. Instead of creating resolutions, try developing attainable goals that can be adjusted and measured. This is especially important in the job hunt.

Depending on how close you are to graduation, now is a good time to begin setting your career goals.

Take some time to develop a job hunting strategy. Look at timelines. For example, if you’re a senior, now is the time to take your job hunt seriously. Ask yourself where you want to work, what you love to do and then start actively applying for jobs.

If you’re midstream in your undergraduate career, consider an internship that would enable you to learn and use skills that will make you a strong candidate for a career when you graduate.

Feel free to set up an appointment with me if you need some ideas in setting your goals.

Karen Knipschild is the UW-Madison English, Philosophy and Comp Lit. Departments Career Advisor.

For job hunting tools: English Careers Website
For appointments: WisCal Scheduler

Making the Most of Your Semester

by Karen Redfield

Welcome back! I hope you feel refreshed after the winter break. As well as setting your career goals this semester, why not set some academic goals as well?

Here are a few questions that may prompt fruitful action. Are you happy with your major GPA? If not, how can you improve on it this semester? Are you thinking about studying abroad? If so, have you looked into programs, met with Study Abroad advisors and scheduled a time to meet with me about courses that will fulfill major requirements? If you are pondering the possibility of graduate school, have you spoken with a professor in the field in which you are interested? Have you made the kind of professional relationships with faculty that will ensure strong letters of recommendation? Do you feel part of a community of English majors? If not, have you considered joining MUSE or becoming part of an editorial team? If you want to teach in the future, have you looked into becoming a Writing Fellow?

Take a moment to refine your academic priorities and future aspirations before the semester gets too busy. Making an appointment with me might help you focus and consider a variety of options. If you cannot find an open time on my schedule, let me know and we’ll work something out. One favor: when you e-mail me, please include your student ID.

We are going to start rolling out the new English course numbers and the new major requirements soon. Every course you are now taking for the major will count for the current and the new major. You do not have to switch into the new major if you don’t wish to do so. Take note of the information sessions posted on the left of this page, check your e-mail for messages from me, and look at the English Department website periodically. This can be a smooth transition. Best wishes for a productive and happy semester.

Dr. Karen Redfield is the UW-Madison Undergraduate English advisor. For appointments: WisCal Scheduler