

Morgan Gossett, B.A. English Language & Literature, 2018

By Max Chambers

Admissions Counselor, Western Kentucky University

“The glorious thing about an English major is that it can lead you anywhere and prepare you for almost anything. I absolutely use skills gained from every one of my English courses in my career field.”



Morgan Gossett earned her bachelor’s degree in English Language and Literature from Western Kentucky University in May 2018. Since July 2018, she has worked as an Admissions Counselor in the [WKU Admissions Office](#).

Gossett knew she wanted to study English after completing AP English courses in high school. Although she is from Barren County, she did not originally consider attending WKU, but her junior year of high school changed that. “I took a look at the options for degree pathways in English, and I realized that WKU was the place to be for an English degree,” said Gossett. “Not to mention, I went on an official admissions tour and The Hill stole my heart by opening my eyes to the Hilltopper experience that was far beyond what I thought it would be. For these reasons I chose WKU, and for the unparalleled academic experience, the Hilltopper family, and the endless opportunities I had, I decided I would never leave.”

Gossett’s English professors left a lasting impression on her life. Gossett found *Advanced Composition* with Dr. Judith Szerdahelyi particularly influential. “This was by far the most demanding and most difficult course I took at WKU, but it was also the most rewarding and growth-yielding course I had, too,” said Gossett. “[Dr. Szerdahelyi] built a camaraderie in her classroom amongst students that is unbelievable in higher education. Her classes were tough, they were demanding, and they were rigorous, but every ounce of effort students put into their work, she gave back to them tenfold.” Dr. David LeNoir’s encouragement in the classroom, in academic advising, and in career and life direction also profoundly impacted Gossett.

In her senior year at WKU, Gossett decided to switch her major from English for Secondary Teachers to English Language & Literature, but she knew she still wanted a hand in students' educational experience. "I applied to be an Admissions Counselor at WKU specifically for the opportunity to take a hands-on approach to bringing students to WKU," said Gossett. At the Admissions Office, Gossett works with both prospective and current WKU students, serving as an advising resource throughout their undergraduate career. She also edits the Western Kentucky University Viewbook, which is sent to approximately 30,000 students every year.

Gossett knows her English degree is invaluable in her current job. She serves on the Communications Team, which drafts all print and electronic communications to incoming students. "I have to not only know WKU, but I also need to know how to present our university in a manner that yields student interest," said Gossett. "Not to mention, I am constantly talking to students, parents, and counselors that expect a level of professionalism that my English degree has afforded me, that can make or break a student's decision to attend this university."

In her free time, Gossett enjoys traveling to new places and celebrating family traditions. She also enjoys staying as busy as possible. "It might be housework, social events, or reading, but whatever keeps my mind occupied for a period of time is what I would say I enjoy the most," said Gossett. "In other words, stagnancy, quiet, and stillness are not my thing."

Gossett knows the flexibility that an English major provides, and she recommends that current students consider non-traditional career paths. "Don't box yourself into careers that prompt English degree candidates," said Gossett. "When your parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles want to know what you are going to do with an English degree you can tell them, 'Whatever I want!' There is a market for us English majors, and it is booming."

