Studying English Literature and Linguistics at UZH

English has the status of an official language in over 50 countries – some more obvious (e.g. USA or UK), others perhaps less so (e.g. India, Guyana, Nigeria, Samoa, and Fiji).

However, it is mandatory only for students wishing to complete the teaching diploma for Maturitätsschulen.

Topics, Aims, and Main Focus
In our study programs, students develop the ability to examine critically aspects of English linguistics, and Anglophone literatures and cultures, in both their current and historical forms.

English Literature
In the field of Literature, students engage in the analysis and interpretation of literary and other types of texts, taking into account important currents in popular culture, theater, and film. This includes methods of textual analysis (poetics, rhetoric, and genre) as well as in-depth discussion of literary and cultural theory.

English Linguistics
In Linguistics, students gain applied and theoretical knowledge about the development and structure of the English language in its historical, geographical, and sociocultural varieties; as well as familiarity with the most important branches of linguistic enquiry: morphology, phonology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, sociolinguistics, textlinguistics, psycholinguistics, historical linguistics; language, literature, & culture of the Middle Ages.

Language Skills and Culture
All courses are taught and examined in English. Beginners are therefore expected to be suitably competent in spoken and written English. Students’ oral and, in particular, writing skills will be further developed in Language Skills and Culture modules taught by native speakers. A stay abroad before the beginning or during the course of one’s studies is highly recommended.

For an overview of all UZH study programs: www.degrees.uzh.ch

Beginning of Studies
Fall semester (as most of the mandatory introductory modules are not offered in the spring).

Duration of Studies
Bachelor (180 ECTS overall): min. six semesters
Master (120 ECTS overall): min. four semesters

Job Perspectives
The spectrum of jobs is very broad and comprises, among others: teaching at professional and secondary schools; academic careers and/or university administration; publishing, libraries, and archives; journalism, PR, advertising, marketing; cultural institutions, film, and television; translation, public administration, business, and diplomacy.

Information on the UZH English Department
www.es.uzh.ch

Further Information on English Studies
www.es.uzh.ch/en/bachelor.html
www.es.uzh.ch/en/studyadvice.html
www.uzh.ch/en/studies/studentlife.html
www.plaene.uzh.ch