So you’re a liberal arts major.

GOOD CHOICE!

You’ve acquired a solid grounding in your discipline, and also some incredibly important and flexible skills that have prepared you to succeed. Now you just have to let potential employers know what you can do.

What are these skills? You have learned:

- Creative, innovative thinking that solves problems
- The capacity to learn new things quickly and adapt to the ever-changing world
- Clear, effective communication
- The ability to do research and analyze data
- The flexibility to work in teams and understand other points of view in our diverse world

These are capabilities that will prepare you to do well in jobs that exist today—and tomorrow.

But how do you get the word out?

- Pump up your resume. List your major, but also list the skills you acquired while pursuing it. Such things as a foreign language, writing and research skills, and an international, multicultural perspective can set you apart.
- Pursue an internship, and then expect to explain both what you did and what you learned.
- Prepare a cover letter that addresses your overarching skills and clarifies how they will help you learn quickly and adapt to a new position.
- Practice a response to an interview question that describes a project you did for your major in terms of the skills you acquired.
- Plan to mention how your skills relate to the specific opportunity in a thank you letter after your interview.
- Utilize customized job search strategies, practice interviews and placement opportunities offered by Wright State’s Career Services.

A recent study surveyed employers and yielded the following results:

- 95% said innovation is a priority for employers today.
- 93% recognized capacities that cut across majors as critical to success and view these skills as more important than a choice of an undergraduate major.
- More than 94% of employers surveyed place high priority on ethics, intercultural skills, and the capacity for professional development.

And of a list of the top 10 skills employers want, as reported in Forbes Magazine, seven are directly related to a liberal arts education, including the top two—the ability to work in teams and solve problems.

Use this information to make a case for your liberal arts major... and for yourself!