

# ENGLISH Career Talk

Brown Bag @ November 14, 12-1pm (MU Arikara)

## Meet our Speakers



**Zachary Packineau**

*"Originally from Bismarck, ND, I am a 2006 graduate of NDSU (BA, English). I have worked in public service and non-profits during my entire professional career. I have worked for Fargo Public Library and Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library, and during that time, I was very active in the North Dakota Library Association. I then moved into the role as the community organizer for the American Civil Liberties Union of North Dakota, where I worked in advocacy on issue-based campaigns for progressive causes at the local and state levels. I am now the Northwest regional program manager for ServeMinnesota Action Network, an AmeriCorps initiative that implements reading and math proficiency programs in schools. I am a volunteer with PFund (PhilantroFund), where I sit on the Social Change Fund Committee; and a volunteer with the North Dakota Consensus Council, where I serve on the Community Innovations Grants Committee. I have a daily yoga practice and two miniature dachshunds."*



**Jessica Grosz**

*"I grew up in Fargo, North Dakota and attended college in Minnesota, graduating from St. Olaf College in 2005 with degrees in English and Spanish. During college, I supplemented my studies with month-long study abroad trips to England and Mexico. After graduation, I moved to Barcelona, Spain for a year, where I taught English to classes varying in size and age group. I returned to the US to pursue a law degree at the University of Denver and graduated in 2009. I worked as an attorney for the Oregon Law Center and Legal Aid Services of Oregon, non-profits that provide legal services to low-income individuals in Oregon. My practice focused mainly on employment law and, to a lesser degree, on immigration law. Most recently, I moved back to Fargo where I now work as a Faculty Immigration Advisor at NDSU. I credit my English studies in college with helping me to read in a detail-oriented manner and to effectively communicate verbally and in writing, critical skills both for an attorney and a Faculty Immigration Advisor."*

## **Questions you might want to ask Zach and Jessica during the Q&A!**

### **Add your own!!**

1. How did you find out about your current jobs/jobs that you have held in the past?
2. What qualifications—what knowledge and skills—does this job require? What knowledge and skills are desirable? Would a person need a master's degree—or do you think someone with a bachelor's degree would be able to get a job like this one?
3. What other jobs did you have before this one? How did you find out about them?
4. Did you have a minor when you were an undergrad? Are there any minors that you think would be helpful for undergraduate English majors?
5. Are there any classes or types of classes that you think would help an English major be more employable?
6. What else can an English major do while still in college to make himself/herself more employable?
7. Does your office/program/company hire interns? Full-time employees? What are the qualifications for either of these types of jobs?
8. What's the most enjoyable part of your job?
9. What does a typical work day/week/month look like for you?
10. Which parts of your job do best/most intuitively align or link back to your education as an English major?
11. What type of person would be successful in a job like yours? So, in addition to skills, what kind of character traits or interests would help a person succeed in your profession?