Where Can a Graduate Degree Take Me?

A Master’s degree in Computing can take you career in many directions. Many of our MSc students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master’s students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Systems Software Developer
- Telecommunications/Networks Engineer
- Biomedical Engineer/Bioinformatics specialist
- Special Effects/Graphics Specialist
- Computer Systems/Database Manager
- Operations Research Specialist
- Systems Analyst/Operating Systems Programmer
- Management positions in public, private and non-profit organizations

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

M.Sc. Career Outcomes in the Physical Sciences

- Government, Nonprofit, Community, Public Service 23%
- Business & Commerce 28%
- Faculty, Teaching, Research 40%

M. Sc. Professional Development

- Computer Science and Engineering
- Computing Science, Computer Systems
- Computer Science, Software Engineering
- Computing Science, Data Mining
- Computing Science, Telecommunications
- Computing Science, Biomedical Engineering
- Computing Science, Bioinformatics
- Computing Science, Networked Systems
- Computing Science, Parallel Systems
- Computing Science, Human-Machine Learning
- Computing Science, Computational Geometry
- Computing Science, Graph Theory
- Computing Science, Artificial Intelligence
- Computing Science, Parallel Systems
- Computing Science, Programming Languages

School of Computing

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Why MSc Computing?

“Cutting-edge research, world-renowned supervisors, unparalleled social experience, and a devotion to school life […] result in nothing short of awesome.”

Eric Rapos, PhD student

The School of Computing offers a graduate program that is unique in its quality, diversity, innovation and reach. Our faculty and students are engaged in research projects that span the spectrum of traditional computer science, while at the same time exploring areas never visited before. Some of us are discovering properties of certain computers that are radically different from the ones we have today, in the sense that a bit is the spin of an atom, or a register is a strand of DNA. Others are building organic interfaces for humans to communicate with computers. At Queen’s you will find a School reputed for its academic excellence and the wonderful atmosphere it enjoys.

Why Queen’s?

Why Kingston?

“Kingston is a friendly, community oriented city with an active downtown and close proximity to Canada’s capital of Ottawa. Queen’s University campus is located along the St. Lawrence River, making it a wonderful place to study, work and live.”

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GETTING STARTED

- Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor, forming your committee, and doing your coursework.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and \textit{Expanding Horizons} professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the SGS Habitat.

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT

- Start to think about the audiences for your research.
- If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for NSERC and DGS funding.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Consider positions in student services, the SOPS, or media outlets like the Queen’s Journal, \textit{CFRC TV}, and the SGS Blog for more ideas.
- Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees. Talk to the Queen’s Graduate Computing Society for tips on getting involved.
- Check out professional development workshops from \textit{Expanding Horizons} and the Computing Department.

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations.

LAUNCH YOUR CAREER

- Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking the Career Services Career Planning workshop or meeting with a career counselor. Check out books like \textit{So What Are You Going to do With That?} for advice on various career options.
- Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites. Stay on the lookout for special events like Graduate Students’ Career Week to explore your career pathways.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

INTERMEDIATE STAGE

- Complete your coursework; begin to research and write your thesis.
- Attend or present at a graduate conference such as the Queen’s Graduate Computing Society Conference.
- Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.

WRAPPING UP

- Complete and defend your thesis.
- Consider publication options for your research.
- Consider participation in the SGS901 or the PUTL certificate for more professional development in teaching and learning.
- Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and interviews. Get help with the Skills and Experience workshop.
- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest through \textit{Queen’sConnects} on LinkedIn, the Queen’s Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Check out Career Services’ networking workshops.
- Participate in hiring committees and attend job talks. Start focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your CV or resume for potential positions of interest. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, or interviews.

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

- Communication: effective and clear in written, oral and multimedia forms, for diverse audiences
- Information management: prioritize, organize and synthesize large amounts of information
- Time management: meet deadlines and responsibilities despite competing demands
- Project management: develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
- Creativity and innovation: to address complex, multifaceted challenges
- Perseverance: to work through challenges to achieve desired outcome
- Independence and experience as a collaborative worker
- Awareness and understanding of sound ethical practices, social responsibility, responsible research and cultural sensitivity
- Professionalism: in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
- Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussions

Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links!