Get to know COMMERCE

From your first day in the Commerce program, you will become immersed in a program that features small class sizes, a team approach, state-of-the-art technologies, and a focus on personal academic development. The first two years of your program provide a strong business foundation. In third and fourth year, you can focus on areas of interest such as accounting, finance or marketing, or you can remain a generalist by choosing courses from various fields of study. The Commerce experience extends well beyond the classroom. You will enjoy unparalleled extracurricular opportunities, including a wide range of conferences and competitions, and a tremendous sense of community.

The Commerce program includes students from across Canada and around the world. You will have the opportunity to study business abroad through international exchange opportunities at over 100 universities worldwide, or Queen’s own Bader International Study Centre in East Sussex, England. Over 80% of Commerce students go on international exchange.

Our Certificate in Professional Development is comprised of workshops that will give you an advantage in any career you choose. Commerce students are also able to earn a Certificate in Responsible Leadership offered by Smith School of Business Centre for Social Impact.

The Business Career Centre includes a team of recruitment and career development experts who support your career advancement. We offer a comprehensive career management plan, which covers career exploration to job search through one-on-one coaching, workshops, mock interviews and events with corporate partners. We also build and maintain relationships with a large variety of companies who actively visit to recruit Queen’s Commerce students.

“96% of Commerce students have acquired jobs within six months of graduation” *based on graduate records provided

Degree OPTIONS

Bachelor of Commerce (4 Year Honours)

Queen’s ADMISSIONS

Students apply to Queen’s Commerce (QC) through the OUAC (Ontario University Application Centre) website. Students must have a minimum average of 87%. The average is composed of six courses, including three required courses, English 4U, Calculus and Vectors 4U, and one additional 4U course in Math, as well as the best three 4U or 4M courses (no more than two 4M courses from any discipline will be used in the calculation). A minimum grade of 80% is required in English and Math. Applicants outside of Ontario may have additional requirements.

Course HIGHLIGHTS

Commerce students have a wide range of courses available to help prepare them for an international business environment, such as Negotiation Theory & Behaviour, Doing Business in Asia-Pacific Rim, Managing Across Cultures, Organizational Fraud, International Business Strategy, and Investments & Portfolio Management. Courses like these will expand your perception of the business world as you know it, introduce you to new ideas and practices, and develop the skills needed to succeed.

Flexible CHOICES

Queen’s Commerce students often choose to stream in a field of study; others choose to take a variety of courses from different areas. Such fields of study include accounting, business economics, entrepreneurship, finance, general management, international business, management information systems, marketing, operations management and management science, organizational behaviour, and strategy and organization.

That is a degree from Queen’s.
Caution: *This map is meant as a guide to provide suggestions throughout your university career. The activities, resources, and careers mentioned are possibilities – you are not restricted to them and you don’t have to follow this exact timeline. Every person (including you!) will find their own unique path through their degree at Queen’s and beyond.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormaps.html for the online version with links!
How to use this map

• Have questions about careers and classes?
• Feeling a little lost or overwhelmed by choices?
• Wondering what you are “supposed” to be doing?

Use this map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of career and academic life. Each map helps you explore possibilities, set goals and track your accomplishments. To make your own custom map, use the My Major Map tool.

Don’t stress if you haven’t done all of the suggested activities. The map is not a prescription – it’s a tool for finding your own way at Queen’s.

Getting what you need to succeed in the workplace

WHAT DO EMPLOYERS WANT?

In a recent survey from the Canadian Council of Chief Executives the top 6 skills sought by employers were:

1. People skills
2. Communication skills
3. Problem-solving skills
4. Analytical abilities
5. Leadership skills
6. Industry-specific knowledge

HOW DO I GET THE SKILLS I NEED?

It is important to develop a balanced skill set – many of which you will develop during your studies. To stand out, take advantage of experiential learning through the multitude of clubs and activities in and around Queen’s. Check out the Get Relevant Experience section of this map.

WHAT CAN I LEARN STUDYING COMMERCE AT QUEEN’S?

• Knowledge of financial modelling and performing financial analyses, statistical simulations, and linear programming
• Communication and etiquette in a formal business environment
• In-depth knowledge of economics and business areas such as accounting, finance and marketing
• Leadership – work effectively in a team environment, and build strong teams and effective relationships
• Financial and investment management, capital budgeting and wealth planning
• Ability to use computer programs and statistical methods to analyze data
• Project and operations management
• Public speaking and presentation skills
• Understanding of corporate social responsibility and business ethics
• Critical thinking and quantitative analytical skills – analyze case studies and make recommendations

WHAT MAKES ME SPECIAL?

No one will get exactly the same experience as you. Take the time to think about what skills you have developed to be able to best explain them with compelling examples in future applications to employers and further education. For help with this, check out the Career Services skills workshop.