Succeed in the workplace

What employers want

The Canadian Council of Chief Executives list the top 6 skills sought by employers as:
1. People skills
2. Communication skills
3. Problem-solving skills
4. Analytical abilities
5. Leadership skills
6. Industry-specific knowledge

Take the time to think about the unique skills you have developed at Queen’s, starting with the skills list here for ideas. Explaining your strengths with compelling examples will be important for applications to employers and further education. For help, check out the Career Services skills workshop.

What can I learn studying GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING?

- Understanding of the interrelationships between people, places and environments
- Knowledge of social, cultural, economic and political factors affecting societies and environments; physical and biophysical aspects of the earth’s environments; and the earth system
- Oral and written communication to write reports and give presentations
- Field research skills to conduct field studies by installing sensors and data loggers to measure and monitor physical processes
- Laboratory research skills to collect snow, water, soil and vegetation samples for biogeochemical analysis in the laboratory
- Analytical skills to analyze spatial information and data using computer technologies such as Geographic Information Systems (e.g. ESRI ArcInfo), Remote Sensing and Image Processing, and statistical methods
- Academic research skills to conduct research using databases and journal articles through library resources

Get to know GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING

Geography bridges the natural sciences, the social sciences and the humanities. Students in Geography approach problems from ecological and spatial perspectives. An ecological perspective is useful for investigating many environmental and resource management questions that focus upon relationships between humans and the natural environment. Alternatively a spatial perspective is concerned with understanding locational choices and relationships underlying human (social, cultural, historical, economic or political) behaviour at geographical scales ranging from the local to the global. The Department of Geography and Planning offers two ways to boost your resume – a fast-track professional master’s degree in urban and regional planning and a certificate in Geographic Information Science. The fast-track program combines a BAH or BScH with a Master’s degree by extending your studies by only 15 months instead of 24 months.

Degree OPTIONS

Bachelor of Science (Honours)
Major in one of the following:
- Earth Systems Science
- Geography
Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
Major in one of the following:
- Earth Systems Science
- Geography
Bachelor of Science (General)
Bachelor of Arts (General)
Certificate in Geographic Information Science
Internship option available
Accelerated Masters

“A top-performing department both in world rankings and within Queen’s, Geography and Planning puts students on the map.”


quartsci.com
Geography and Planning MAJOR MAP

1ST YEAR
- **BScH**: take GPHY 101, 102, 6.0 units MATH or STAT and 6.0 units of CHEM or PHYS.
- **BAH**: take GPHY 101 and 102.
Each Plan will have at least one required first-year course, including minors. It is important to take a variety of first-year courses to keep as many pathways open as possible for you going into second year. For details see the Arts and Science Academic Calendar.

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED
- **Get Connected with the Community**
  - Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations, such as local charities or clubs like The Earth Centre.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
- **Join teams or clubs on campus such as Queen's Project on International Development (QPID) and the Geography Explore Camp.**
- **See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen’s Get Involved page for more ideas.**

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY
- **Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC).**
  - Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as the Royal Canadian Geographical Society.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY
- The Queen's University International Centre is your first stop to learn how to internationalize your degree or to leverage your existing cross-cultural experience.
- **Speak to a QUIC advisor or get involved in their programs, events and training opportunities.**

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION
- Grappling with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services.
- **Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as Career Opportunities in Conservation and the Environment.**
- **For more information check out Career Cruising or by finding and connecting with alumni on LinkedIn.**

2ND YEAR
- **See the Department website for required units and suggestions for various programs in Geography and Planning.**
  - If interested in the Certificate in Geographic Information Science (GISc), start taking courses now.
  - Please see the Academic Calendar to ensure you are taking the correct courses.

3RD YEAR
- **See the Department website for units required and course suggestions.**
- **Consider the Urban and Regional Planning accelerated degree program to fast-track a Master's degree to only 15 months instead of 24 months.**
- **Need help mapping all of your core, option, supporting and elective courses (including those not listed above) to make sure you will have what you need to complete your degree? Use the Course Mapping Tool on the Arts and Science website.**

4TH OR FINAL YEAR
- **Complete your degree requirements.**
  - By fourth year you should be working on your remaining core, option, supporting and elective courses. Make sure to map your minor and/or certificate(s) as well.
  - **Apply to graduate in SOLUS.**

CONSIDER A 12-16 MONTH QUIC INTERNSHIP
- **Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest.**
- **Assess what experience you're lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships – check out the Career Services skills workshop for help.**

VISIT CAREERS.QUEENSU.CA/MAJORMAPS.HTML FOR THE ONLINE VERSION WITH LINKS!

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