Succeed in the workplace

What employers want

Take the time to think about the unique skills you have developed at Queen’s, starting with the skills listed 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 workshop.

My Major Map

How to use this map

Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. The map just offers suggestions – you don’t have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the My Major Map tool.

Get the help you need

Queen’s provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. At Queen’s, you are never alone. We have many offices dedicated to helping you learn, think and do.

Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming living and learning environment provides many resources both academically and personally, and Queen’s wants you to succeed! Check out the Student Affairs website for additional resources.

Why study in Kingston?

For over 175 years, the Kingston community has been a collection of bright minds. We are proud that our city was named one of the ten Intelligent Communities across the globe, an accolade largely due to the thousands of students who study here every single year. In fact, the BBC has identified Kingston as one of the ten most intelligent cities in the world, with Kingston deemed the ‘fresh made daily’ capital of the world. Kingston is arguably the birthplace of hockey. Wondering what to do while you’re attending school? Kingston is not only known as the sailing capital of the world, but also as the sailing capital of the world. Just a quick drive to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and even New York, Kingston is a safe and liveable city. Not only are we known as the freshwater sailing capital of the world, Kingston is also a great place for sports. Whether you’re interested in hockey, golf, or tennis, you’ll find plenty of ways to keep active in Kingston.

Biology

Get to know BIOLOGY

There has never been a more exciting time to study Biology, with subjects ranging as broadly as climate change and the conservation of biodiversity, the origin and evolution of life, the form and function of organisms, and the ongoing “omics” revolution at the molecular level.

Our program emphasizes interactive learning with hands-on laboratories, small seminar modules and field courses. Our department also offers opportunities for field study around the globe – from Argentina to Africa.

New to Biology is the Biotechnology program that works with living organisms and other biological systems to help us improve our lives by discovering new drugs, improving crop production, and helping to develop novel forms of sustainable energy. Recognizing the interdisciplinary nature of biotechnology, the program will encourage students to take courses from several departments at Queen’s, everything from law to civil engineering to biotechnical and molecular sciences. There is also an option to combine this degree with a diploma in Biotechnology from St. Lawrence College.

Queens’ ADMISSION

Students apply to Queen’s Science (QS) through the OUAC (Ontario Universities’ Application Centre) website (ouac.on.ca). Secondary School prerequisites include English 4U, Advanced Functions 4U, Calculus and Vectors 4U, plus two of Physics 4U, Chemistry 4U or Biology 4U. Visit queensu.ca/admission for additional information regarding requirements and admission to Queen’s.

Degree PLANS

Bachelor of Science (Honours) Major / Minor in Biology / Specialization in Biotechnology, Biology and Mathematics, Biology and Psychology, Environmental Biology

A Year to CHOOSE

We often say that our students are like explorers. In Arts and Science, your first year is all about making choices and exploring new paths. Whether you are in Arts, Science or Computing, you will choose your courses from a wide variety of subjects as you settle into university life and become familiar with new styles of learning. By the end of your first year, you will have discovered your areas of interest, passion and success, and then declare your major. Your first year, whether you consider it to be uncharted, undecided or simply a time for exploration, is bound to be a year full of adventure.


That is a degree from Queen’s.

Queens Biology Faculty of Arts and Science Biosciences Complex 116 Barrie Street 613-533-6344 biology.queensu.ca

Biology is the science of life – and through our living teaching spaces such as the Queen’s University Biology Station (QUBS) and our Phytonutrient greenhouse our students live it every day. Course HIGHLIGHTS

The courses in Biology are very diverse from Ecology and Evolution, Animal and Plant Physiology to Biotechnology. Those interested in understanding biology at the cellular level can choose courses in Cell Biology, Genetics, Comparative Biochemistry and Analytical Genomics. If understanding whole ecosystems is your interest, we have courses in Population and Evolutionary Ecology, Conservation Genetics, Limnology and Aquatic Ecology and several field courses in Canada and abroad. If you are primarily interested in more human focused topics we have Human Genetics and Evolution, Plants for People, Evolution and Human Affairs, and Evolutionary Medicine.

We’re closer than you think

Queensu.ca
2ND YEAR

In second year you can enrol in the Biology Honours Plan or one of our three specialized Plans (Biology and Psychology, Biology and Mathematics or Biotechnology). Core courses such as Diversity of Life, Genetics, and Biostatistics lay the foundation for 3rd and 4th year. Please see the Academic Calendar to ensure you are taking the correct courses.

Want to enhance your degree? Consider a certificate in Media Studies or explore other certificates available.

3RD YEAR

In third year take core courses in Ecology (BIOL 302 or BIOL 303), Physiology (BIOL 341 or BIOL 339), and Cell Biology (BIOL 330).

You can focus your study into thematic areas; view suggested courses on the Department website. Check out our field courses (BIOL 307, 308, 317 and 327).

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

Thinking about graduate programs? Check out our Honours Thesis courses (BIOL 537 or BIOL 541) and Research Mentorship courses (BIOL 538-540). If you're looking for a unique study experience, check out our Honours Seminar courses (BIOL 501-536) and 4th year labs (BIOL 401-404).

By fourth year you should be working on your remaining option and elective courses. Make sure to map your minor and / or certificate(s) as well. Apply to graduate in SOLUS.

Where could I go after graduation?

Academic and applied research

Agricultural Sciences

Bioeconomics

Bioethics

Bioinformatics

Biomechanics

Biotechnology

Chiropractic

Community health

Dentistry

Environmental conservation

Epidemiology

Fisheries science

Food industry

Forensic science

Genetic counselling

Health administration

Marine biology

Medical research

Medical technology

Medicine

Nursing

Occupational therapy

Oceanography

Optometry

Pharmaceutical sales

Pharmacology

Physical therapy

Protection and law

Public health

Psychology

Public relations

Public service

Psychiatric services

Quality assurance

Radiology

Recreation and parks

Religious studies

Research

Rural medicine

Sociology

Social work

Sustainability

Technology

Theology

Theological studies

Tourism

Veterinary medicine

Some careers may require additional training.

Get the Courses You Need

In first year take BIOL 102, 103, CHEM 112 and MATH 120 or 121. Interested in the Biology and Psychology Specialization? Take PSYC 100. Interested in the Biology and Mathematics Specialization? Take MATH 110 or 111.

Each Science Plan will have several required first-year courses, including minors. For details see the Arts and Science Academic Calendar.

Get Relevant Experience

Volunteering is a great way to get practical experience and build your CV towards getting Biology jobs during your degree.

Look into summer jobs by talking to the department on Career Services about work through SWEP or NSERC.

Get Connected With the Community

Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations, such as Queen's Health Outreach, Let's Talk Science, and Women in Science & Engineering at Queen's University (WISE).

Get Thinking Globally

Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUC's Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.

Speak to a QUC advisor to 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 considering career options from Career Services.

Build your transferable skills in time management, problem-solving, writing and more with Student Academic Success Services.

Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as Opportunities in Biotechnology Careers. For more information check out Career Cruising or by finding and connecting with alumni on LinkedIn.

Start focusing on areas of interest. Research education requirements for careers of interest. If needed, prepare to take any required tests like the MCAT or GMAT and get help thinking about grad school from Career Services.

Apply to jobs or future education, or make plans for other adventures. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, interviews, grad school applications, or other decisions.

In Arts? Add Biology as your Minor.