Economics

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 workshops.

What can I learn studying Economics?

- Technical skills for collecting economic data and applying statistical analysis and modeling techniques
- Understand the impact of policies, interest rates, productivity, savings, investment and other economic factors on countries, firms and individuals
- Theoretical frameworks in micro and macroeconomics and econometrics
- Proficiency in mathematics
- Oral and written communication to analyze empirical and theoretical content, create technical and non-technical reports, and present information to a group
- Research skills to analyze information, test hypotheses, impose intellectual discipline, and isolate relevant evidence
- Logical reasoning to systematically approach complex problems, identify important assumptions, and focus on causal factors

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 top 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 GREATEST UNIVERSITIES in the world, which might be why Instagram named the city the happiest place on the planet. 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 arguably the birthplace of hockey. Wondering what to do while you’re attending school? Queen’s has more clubs per capita than any other university in Canada, and Kingston has more restaurants per capita than any other city in North America; your time here is guaranteed to be ‘fresh made daily’.

Get to know Economics

Why should you study Economics? At its core, the social science of economics is concerned with the material well-being of human societies. It will help you understand the world in which you live and work. It will equip you to succeed in an increasingly knowledge-based and interdependent global economy. It will allow you to identify, describe and improve the strategies and incentives used by individuals, businesses and governments.

Economics will arm you with the tools to face a surprisingly wide range of problems that affect our everyday lives. Students in economics will learn how to document and value risk, study labour markets and global trade, design and assess government policies, and describe the operation of international currency markets. But there are so many other questions economists can ask. What determines the prices of goods and services? Why do stock and bond prices rise and fall? Why do some people earn so much while others earn so little? Can carbon taxes slow global warming? How much should you spend or save? Where should you invest your savings? Should you buy a house? How does the tax system affect you, your family and the businesses in your neighbourhood? By showing you how to systematically address these questions and many, many more, economics will help you make better decisions in your personal life, in business and as a global citizen.

Degree PLANS

Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
Major / Medal / Minor in Economics
Major in Applied Economics
Major in PPE
Internship option available

Economics at Queen’s has a distinguished history and it ranks among the top research and teaching departments in Canada.

Course HIGHLIGHTS

Courses in Economics look at both micro and macro environments, from local to international markets. Courses such as Macroeconomic Policy, International Trade Policy, Law and Economics are for those interested in policy development. Courses in Canadian Labour Relations, Labour Markets and Gender Differences, and Income Distribution and Problems of Inequality allow students to focus on areas related to equity and workforce issues. If you are more interested in how economics relates to specific industries, then courses in Natural Resource Economics or the Economics of Health Care are for you.

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 will then declare your major. Your first year, whether you consider it to be undeclared, undecided or simply a time for exploration, is bound to be a year full of adventure.

For more information, visit econ.queensu.ca. Get to know Economics and Plan your future at econ.queensu.ca.

Queen’s ADMISSION

Students apply to Queen’s Arts (QA) through the OUAC (Ontario Universities’ Application Centre) website (ouac.on.ca). Secondary School prerequisites include six 4U and 4M courses, including a minimum of three 4U courses, one of which must be ENG4U. Applicants outside of Ontario may have additional requirements. Visit queensu.ca/admission for additional information regarding requirements and admission to Queen’s.

Acquire Skills. Gain Experience. Go Global. That is a degree from Queen’s.

QUartsci.com

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Faculty of Arts and Science
Dunning Hall, Room 209
94 University Avenue
613-533-2296
econ.queensu.ca

Queens 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 started thinking about the future now – where do you want to go after your degree? Having tentative goals (like careers or grad school) while working through your degree can help with short-term decisions about courses and experiences, but also help you keep motivated for success.

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 offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally, and Queen’s wants you to succeed! Check out the Student Affairs website for available resources.

We’re closer than you think

Get to know ECONOMICS

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QUartsci.com
*If you're interested in the Philosophy, Politics & Economics Specialization, please see the Major Map for that program.

1ST YEAR

- In first year take ECON 110 or 111 and 112 along with MATH 121 or 126. ECON 111 and 112 are also offered at Herstmonceux Castle.
- Build your transferable skills in time management, problem-solving, writing and more with Student Academic Success Services.

2ND YEAR

- In second year take ECON 212, 222, 250 and 255, along with courses outlined in the Academic Calendar.
- Consider a wide range of course options in economic policy or applied economics, including environmental economics, the economics of health care, labour markets and gender differences, economic development or economic history.
- Want to enhance your degree? Consider a certificate in Employment Relations or explore other certificates available.

3RD YEAR

- In third year ECON students take ECON 310, 320 and 351. Applied economics students take ECON 310 and 351, with the option of taking 320. Even more opportunities for advanced courses in economic theory, data analytics, investment analysis and risk assessment are outlined in the Academic Calendar.
- 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.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

- Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations, such as the Queen's International Affairs Association (QIAA).
- Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC) as a class representative, year representative, or on the executive. Go to workshops and conferences hosted by the Economics Department.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUIC's Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.
- Speak to a QUIC 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 wondering about career options from Career Services.
- Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as Careers in Finance. For more information check out Career Cruising or by finding and connecting with alumni on LinkedIn.

4TH OR FINAL YEAR

- All students select one of the “capstone” seminars, which have a maximum of 15 students, and cover a variety of micro and macroeconomic topics. Applied Economics students take ECON 452.
- By fourth year you should be working on your remaining core, option, 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 QUIP internship.
- About two-thirds of ECON graduates find jobs in the public service or financial sector. Investigate internships or full-time jobs 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.

Where could I go after graduation?

- Accounting
- Actuarial science
- Auditing
- Banking
- Business Administration
- Central banking
- Credit Management
- Demography
- Environmental policy
- Finance
- Graduate studies
- Human resources
- Immigration services
- Insurance
- International development
- Investment analysis
- Labour and industrial relations
- Law
- Management consulting
- Medicine
- Monetary/fiscal policy
- Natural resource management
- Public Administration
- Quality control
- Real estate
- Risk management
- Sales analyst
- Securities Investment and Trade
- Strategic Planning
- Teaching
- Urban and Regional Planning

Some careers may require additional training.

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