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 workshop.

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 happiest place on the planet, which might be why Instagram named the city ‘the people skills

Get to know PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy is the attempt to understand the truth about ourselves, the world we inhabit, and our place in it. Philosophy asks the big questions: What is the general structure of reality? What makes something good or beautiful? What is knowledge? How should society be organized? What is the relationship between mind and body? In answering these questions, philosophers subject our most basic ideas to detailed analysis, critically reflect on cutting edge empirical investigations, and work to construct satisfactory, large scale theories of reality.

The Philosophy program at Queen’s provides students with critical thinking and reading skills, enabling them to uncover hidden assumptions, identify core premises, evaluate arguments and communicate ideas effectively. Study Ancient, Modern, and post-19th Century thinkers as they investigate key questions in Metaphysics, Epistemology, Ethics, and Political Philosophy. Our courses offer a range of perspectives, from broad investigations of perennial topics to problem-based inquiries.

Course HIGHLIGHTS

Courses in Philosophy will ask the Fundamental Questions – in fact there’s even a course with that title where you will discuss and debate moral obligations, free will, gender roles, taking responsibility for the environment and the meaning of life. Choose from options including Continental Philosophy, Bioethics, the Philosophy of Law, Business and Ethics, and the Philosophy of Mind. Don’t miss our second-year courses on Animals and Society, Humans and the Natural World, and Perspectives on Social Diversity.

Degree PLANS

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Major / Medial / Minor in Philosophy / Major in PPE

Internship option available

A world-class philosophical education in a small, personalized setting.

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.


That is a degree from Queen’s.

GUARDIAN

We’re closer than you think

We’re GUARDIAN

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Faculty of Arts and Science
312 Watson Hall
40 Ryder Lane
613-533-2182
queensu.ca/philosophy

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 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.
**Philosophy MAJOR MAP**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS): MAJOR, MEDIAL, MINOR**

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

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### 1ST YEAR

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**

- In first year take PHIL 111 or 115. Build your transferable skills in time management, problem-solving, writing, and more with the Student Academic Success Services.

**GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

- Join teams or clubs on campus. See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen's Get Involved page for more ideas.
- Consider contributing to publications on campus such as Ultraviolet Magazine or the Queen's Journal.

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### 2ND YEAR

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**

- Majors and Medials take PHIL 250 and 257. Enjoy a range of PHIL option courses, plus other courses as outlined in the Academic Calendar. Contact the Undergraduate Chair at PHILUG@queensu.ca for advice if necessary.
- Want to enhance your degree? Consider a certificate in Media Studies or explore other certificates available.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**

- Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations such as Frontier College Queen's Students for Literacy.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**

- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QCIC's Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.
- Speak to a QCIC 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 with career options from Career Services.

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### 3RD YEAR

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**

- Majors take PHIL 361 and a required History of Philosophy course plus 4 option courses.
- Medials need a required History of Philosophy course in 3rd year and 3 option courses.
- 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 RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

- Take more responsibility within different clubs or extracurriculars.
- Think about applying to positions in student services or the Alma Mater Society. Look into summer jobs by talking to the department or Career Services about work through SWEP or Work Study.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**

- Get involved with the Philosophy Departmental Student Council (DSC).
- Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as Queen's Model Court. If interested, attend the Queen's Media and Journalism Conference or the QQA Global Passport Online Database and Internship Fair.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**

- Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to study abroad. Apply in January for a 3rd year exchange through the International Programs Office.
- Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your language skills.

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### 4TH OR FINAL YEAR

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**

- Take 2 400-level option courses and your remaining 300-level courses. Consider taking a Directed Study course.
- 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.

**GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

- Deepen or expand your experience with extracurriculars. Think about participating in student or University government.
- If interested, apply for an Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship (USSRF). Consider applying to do a 12-16 month QUIP internship between your third and fourth year.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**

- Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group Queen's Connects. Check out Career Services networking workshops.
- Attend the Philosophy Colloquium series. Connect with professors at events or workshops hosted by the DSC.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**

- International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an International Student Advisor.

**GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION**

- Consider serving on the Executive of the PHIL DSC. Keep attending the Colloquium.
- Consider joining the Canadian Philosophical Association.
- Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in Philosophy.

**Where could I go after graduation?**

- Academia
- Advertising
- Applied ethics
- Archives
- Bioethics
- Consulting
- Counsellor
- Cultural affairs
- Entrepreneur
- Ethics
- Foreign service
- Fundraising
- Human rights
- Information technology
- International development
- Law
- Marketing
- Media and communications
- Medical ethics
- Medicine
- Non-governmental organizations
- Politics and government
- Professor
- Public and private research
- Public policy
- Teacher
- Training, recruitment, and development
- Some careers may require additional training.

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