

Environmental Science

Society has become more aware of the seriousness of the environmental problems we face. Yet, at the same time, we have realized that the solutions are not simple. To work towards environmental sustainability, people need to understand the scientific basis of environmental problems. They also need to have expertise in planning, policy, and other fields to deal with the social, economic, and cultural complexities that surround them.

TOP 5 Reasons To Study Environmental Science

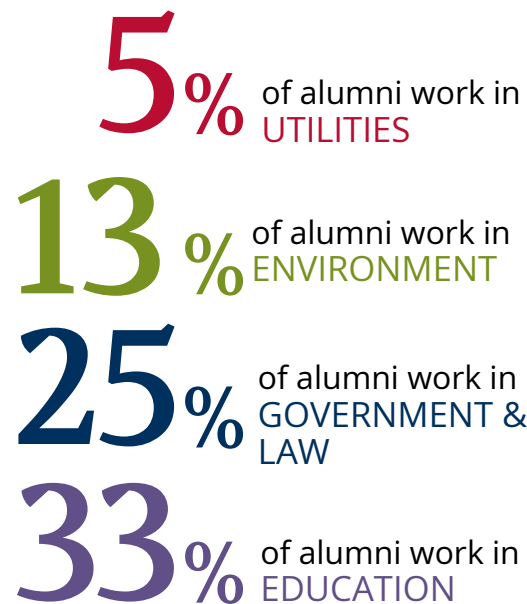
- 1 Hands-on lab and field work. Get dirty, see results.
- 2 Gain transferable skills that employers want, while learning how to prepare arguments and solve problems.
- 3 Help create the future world in which you want to live.
- 4 The best way to find solutions: combining both the arts and the sciences.
- 5 Research-focused courses in upper years contribute to projects happening across Canada and around the world.

Alumni Story

"I think that it's something that is really unique about our department. The fact that our program is so current with the issues our society is facing and that members of the department can unify over trying to find solutions to the problems."

-Makenzie MacKay, BAH '17

ALUMNI JOBS



add a CERTIFICATE

Data Analytics

Disability and Physical Activity

Geographic Information Science

Indigenous Languages and Cultures

International Studies

Sexual and Gender Diversity

Urban Planning Studies

2024-25 Plan Thresholds

Thresholds are made on a competitive basis and are updated annually. To see the thresholds for all programs as well as the latest information, please visit quartsci.com/planselection.

Interested in finding out how to augment your degree with Experiential Learning? Learn what opportunities and resources are available for you on the [Experiential Learning website](#). You can also reach out to the team directly at asc.el@queensu.ca.

[QUartsci.com/certs](https://quartsci.com/certs)

Acquire Skills. Gain Experience. Go Global.

That is a degree from Queen's.

queensu.ca/ensc

Environmental Science MAJOR MAP



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONOURS): MAJOR, SPECIALIZATION

1ST YEAR

2ND YEAR

3RD YEAR

4TH OR FINAL YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

In first year you will take [ENSC 103](#), Environment and Sustainability, and you'll have the chance to explore the foundations of Environmental Science in biology, chemistry, geography, and geology along with some electives.

Attend [Majors Night](#) in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options.

Interested in getting a head start in learning and working in a digital world? Take [ASCX 150](#) and develop future-ready skills!

In second year you will take [ENSC 230](#), Principles of Sustainability, and start going deeper into the discipline of Environmental Science, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as [Global Action and Engagement](#). Learn more about [Certificates](#) and [Internship](#) options.

Want to make sure your academics are where you want them to be? Visit [SASS \(Student Academic Support Services\)](#) and the Writing Centre for some help.

In third year you will take [ENSC 330](#), Applications of Sustainability, and have a chance to start grouping courses in areas of interest, or to keep it more general and explore many areas of Environmental Science. Meet with an [Academic Advisor](#) to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for next year.

In fourth year you will have the chance to participate in research-based project that can lead to [Graduate School](#) or to your future career path. Make sure to finish up all your courses for your major and your optional minor and/or certificate(s).

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Join teams or clubs on campus such as the [Earth Centre](#) or [Queen's Backing Action on the Climate Crisis](#). See [Queen's Sustainability webpage](#), the [AMS Clubs Directory](#) or the [Queen's Get Involved](#) page for more ideas.

Look into [summer jobs](#) by talking to the department or Career Services about work through [SWEP](#) or [Work-Study](#).

Take more responsibility within different clubs or extracurriculars.

If interested, apply for an [Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship \(USSRF\)](#) or an [NSERC USRA](#). Consider applying to do a 12-16 month [QUIP internship](#) between your third and fourth year. Consider entrepreneurial opportunities via programs like the [Queen's Innovation Connector Summer Initiative \(QICSI\)](#).

Investigate full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest. If interested, look for environmental opportunities through [Planet Friendly](#).

Assess what experience you're lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships – check out the Career Services skills [workshop](#) for help.

GET ENGAGED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer on- or off-campus with different community organizations, including [SWITCH Ontario](#) and the [City of Kingston](#).

Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC).

Watch for events hosted by the [School of Environmental Studies](#) such as the [Colloquium Series](#). Start or continue volunteering with organizations.

Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group [Queen's Connects](#). Check out Career Services [networking workshops](#).

Connect with professors at events or workshops hosted by the DSC.

Consider joining professional associations like the [Ontario Environment Industry Association](#) and the [Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and Policy](#).

Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in Environmental Studies.

GET ENGAGED GLOBALLY

Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by volunteering with [Queen's University International Centre](#).

Speak to a QUIC advisor to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.

Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to [study abroad](#). Apply in January for a third year exchange through [the International Programs Office](#).

Consider studying abroad in the summer: look into taking a [Biology field course](#) offered in an international location.

Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your [language skills](#).

Think about [Internship Opportunities](#) abroad related to Environmental Studies.

International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an [International Student Advisor](#).

GET CAREER READY

Grappling with program decisions? Go to [Majors Night](#) or get some help [wondering about career options](#) from Career Services.

Explore different careers of interest in the Career Services Information Area.

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 LSAT or GMAT) and get [help thinking about Grad School](#) from Career Services. Check out what some of our grads are doing at [our website](#) or attend our annual [SES Graduate Student Research Day](#) at the end of winter term.

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.

CONSIDER A 12-16 MONTH QUIP INTERNSHIP

Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A degree in Environmental Science can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- Interdisciplinary perspective to understand environmental topics from a scientific, philosophical, and ethical point of view
- Understand natural and human factors related to environmental problems
- Knowledge of local, national, and global environmental problems and issues
- Analytical skills to analyze data for trends and apply statistical tests
- Ability to interpret data from scientific experimentation and make conclusions based on research
- Experience with laboratory equipment
- Critical thinking to form, defend, and evaluate arguments and propose solutions
- Oral and written communication to create reports and give presentations
- To work as a team on a long-term project
- Resource and time management

Career Possibilities

A degree in Environmental Science can take your career in many directions. Many students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a Master's. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Agriculture
- Energy
- Forestry
- Horticulture
- Land quality
- Meteorology
- Parks and natural reserves
- Transportation
- Waste management
- Water quality

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

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](#).

Environmental Science



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. Queen's wants you to succeed! Check out the [Student Affairs website](#) for available resources.



School of Environmental Studies
BioSciences Complex, Room 3134
116 Barrie Street
613-533-6602
queensu.ca/ensc

QUIP QUEEN'S UNDERGRADUATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

START DATES in May, September, or January
POSITIONS are paid and full-time
WORK TERMS are 12-16 months long

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Graduate with a "Professional Internship" degree
- Learn about current advances, practices and technologies in business and industry.
- Test drive a career, earn a competitive salary, and get real world experience.

ELIGIBILITY

- 2nd or 3rd Year Students
- Minimum GPA of 1.9

WHY QUIP?

- Gain a year of career-related work experience.
- Build network connections.
- Receive support from Queen's staff in job search and during internship.

SAMPLE PAST INTERNSHIPS



For more information, contact quip@queensu.ca or visit the [Program Website](#).

Why study in Kingston?

Since 1841, our community has been more than a collection of bright minds – Queen's has attracted students with an ambitious spirit. Queen's has the highest retention rates, the highest graduation rates, and one of the highest employment rates among recent graduates. We are a research intensive university focused on the undergraduate experience. The BBC has identified Kingston as one of the GREATEST UNIVERSITY TOWNS in the world – and it is often awarded the safest city in Canada. It is a university city at the core; just a quick drive to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and even New York. A university with more clubs per capita than any other university in Canada, and a city with more restaurants per capita than any other city in North America – you will have the experience of a lifetime at Queen's – and graduate with a degree that is globally recognized among the best.

We're closer than you think.

