Political Studies

Politics is about power – who has it and how it is exercised by nation-states, individuals, groups, classes, or political parties, and how different interests are reconciled in and between communities. Political Studies is also concerned with the institutions created to govern communities, as well as with political practices such as voting habits or protests, and how rules, behaviours, and cultures are created in societies. Since power in society is often dependent upon material resources, political scientists also study the distribution of wealth, both within and between nations.

REASONS to study POLITICS

- Course topics examine facets of political theory as well as national and international politics.
- 2 Learn to think critically about the distribution of power and resources.
- 3 Diverse group of faculty and teaching fellows who are leading experts in their respective fields.
- Learn how ideological and physical distributions inform systems of governance, political behaviour, and public policies.
- 5 Students are encouraged to consider taking part in an exchange program in their third year.

TOP ALUMNI JOBS

of alumni work in BANKING & INVESTMENTS

16% of alumni work in EDUCATION

16% of alumni work in GOVERNMENT

16% of alumni work in LAW

add a CERTIFICATE

Data Analytics

Disability and Physical Activity

Employment Relations

Certificate in Law

Indigenous Languages and Cultures

Sexual and Gender Diversity

Urban Planning Studies

QUartsci.com/certs

2025-26 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? Check in with your department to learn more about what opportunities and resources are available for you!

Alumni Story

Erin Tolley earned her PhD from Queen's in 2013. She is currently working on a book which examines how race affects the media's portrayal of candidates in Canadian politics. Her article, "Do Women 'Do Better' in Municipal Politics? Representation Across Three Levels of Government" appeared in the Canadian Journal of Political Science.

Acquire Skills. Gain Experience. Go Global.

That is a degree from Queen's.

queensu.ca/politics

Political Studies MAJOR MAP

BACHELOR OF ARTS: HONOURS DEGREE (SPECIALIZATION/MAJOR/MINOR) OR GENERAL DEGREE



GET THE COURSES YOU NEED GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

1ST YEAR 2ND YEAR

> Start going deeper into the discipline of Political Studies, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Global Action and Engagement. Learn more about <u>Certificates</u> and <u>Internship</u> options.

Want to make sure your academics are where you want them to be? Visit SASS (Student Academic Success Services) for some help.

3RD YEAR

A chance to start grouping courses in areas of interest, or to keep it more general and explore many areas of Political Studies. Meet with an Academic Advisor to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for next year.

If interested, apply for an **Undergraduate**

Consider running for office in student

government (ASUS, AMS).

Student Summer Research Fellowship (USSRF).

internship between your third and fourth year;

or a one semester unpaid internship, for credit,

with on of the department's internship partners.

Consider applying to do a 12-16 month QUIP

Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of

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

Consider joining professional associations like Canadian Institute of Global Affairs and Canadian Public Relations Society.

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

International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an International

GET ENGAGED GLOBALLY

GET ENGAGED

WITH THE

COMMUNITY

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

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 taking a language course as an elective.

> 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 GRE) 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.

Apply in the fall for **SSHRC** and **OGS** scholarships if applying to grad school in Ontario.

4TH OR FINAL YEAR

In fourth year you will have the chance to participate in research-based courses 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).

Join teams or clubs on campus such as the

some electives.

more about Plan options.

develop future-ready skills!

Queen's Pre-Law Society and Queen's Debating Union (QDU). Consider joining an on-campus political party.

In first year, you will have the chance to explore

the foundations of Political Studies along with

Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn

Interested in getting a head start in learning and

working in a digital world? Take ASCX 150 and

Apply to be a first year intern with the AMS or ASUS. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more

Volunteer on- or off-campus with different

Participate in events such as Queen's Model

(OMUN). Volunteer with The Journal, Queen's

Parliament (OMP) and Queen's Model UN

International Affairs Association (QIAA).

student-run newspaper.

community organizations, such as the Queen's

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

Get involved with the Political Studies

extracurriculars. Consider contributing to

and Science Faculty and University Senate

Committees. Attend the annual Women in

University affairs by applying to serve on Arts

Department Student Council (DSC).

Continue volunteering at clubs and

International Security conference.

Consider applying to positions in student services or the Alma Mater Society. Write an article for publications related to politics such as Politicus or Inquire.

Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest through LinkedIn. Check out Career Services networking workshops. Connect with professors at events or workshops hosted

Attend talks in departmental speaker series. Help organize QMP, QMUN, or related conferences.

Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your language skills with QUIC.

Student Advisor.

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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 <u>Information Area</u>. For more information check out **Career Cruising** or by finding and connecting with alumni on LinkedIn.

Find impactful work that aligns with your values using the Queen's Career Guide to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A degree in Political Studies can equip you with:

- Knowledge to identify patterns in current affairs based on understanding of different political systems and cultures
- Oral and written communication to write clear, succinct briefing notes and reports, and give engaging, effective presentations
- Research knowledge of various domains in politics to find reliable sources of information and to organize the investigation of a problem
- Problem solving to apply different theoretical perspectives to reveal multiple dimensions of an issue
- Resource and time management to manage multiple long-term projects
- Logical reasoning to analyze concepts and assess arguments in law and policy

Career Possibilities

A degree in Political Studies 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:

- Campaign management Diplomatic service
- Foreign affairs
- Human resources
- International trade
- Public relations
- Research
- Social work

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

Political Studies



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.



ARTS AND SCIENCE

Department of Political Studies Mackintosh-Corry Hall C321 68 University Avenue 613-533-6230 queensu.ca/politics

QUI P 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 "Professional Internship" on your degree
- Learn about current advances, practices and technologies in business and industry
- Explore a career path, earn a salary, and build workplace skills

ELIGIBILITY

- Complete 1st year before you register
- Complete 2nd or 3rd year before your internship
- Minimum GPA of 1.9
- Return to Queen's after your internship to finish your degree

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

h Ne're doser than you think 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 London / 7 hrs CANADA **Oueen's** the experience of a Beijing / 15 hrs lifetime at Queen's Dubai / 14 hrs - and graduate Calgary / 4 hrs Vancouver / 5 hrs with a degree that is globally Halifax / 2 hrs San Francisco / 5.5 hrs Kingston recognized Denver/3 hrs among New York / 1.5 hrs UNITED the best. STATES Dallas / 3.5 hrs Atlanta / 2 hrs Bermuda / 2 hrs