

# English

When you study English at Queen's, you'll learn to read perceptively, analyze clearly, and above all, communicate effectively. Students will explore the literary canon, including writers such as Shakespeare, Austen, and Brontë, but will also engage with cutting edge texts and literary forms, such as graphic novels and works by contemporary writers. Queen's English encourages an eclectic approach to the subject, combining attention to methodology and core knowledge with the flexibility to support individual passions.

## TOP 5 Reasons to study English Language and Literature

- 1 To learn to read and think more actively and creatively.
- 2 To develop your ability to write with greater clarity and precision.
- 3 To explore an exciting diversity of literary works written in English.
- 4 To build a vocabulary for responding critically and incisively to the written word.
- 5 To broaden your aptitudes in expressing complex ideas and formulating persuasive arguments.

## Alumni Story

"I am so thankful to have studied English at Queen's University. The department has top-notch professors who both inspire and challenge your thinking. I learned to apply myriad lenses when examining literature, which deepened my understanding and appreciation of the human condition and universally shared experiences."

- Brett Copeland, BAH '07

## TOP ALUMNI JOBS

5% of alumni work in **LAW**

6% of alumni work in **WRITING & PUBLISHING**

9% of alumni work in **GOVERNMENT & NON-PROFIT**

44% of alumni work in **EDUCATION**

## 2023-24 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](http://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](mailto:asc.el@queensu.ca).

Add a **Certificate**

Data Analytics

Disability and Physical Activity

Employment Relations

Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity

French for Professionals

Geographic Information Science

Global Action and Engagement

Indigenous Languages and Cultures

International Studies

Media Studies

Sexual and Gender Diversity

Urban Planning Studies

[QUartsci.com/certs](http://QUartsci.com/certs)

## Acquire Skills. Gain Experience. Go Global.

That is a degree from Queen's.

[queensu.ca/english](http://queensu.ca/english)

# English MAJOR MAP

BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS): MAJOR, JOINT HONOURS, MINOR



## 1ST YEAR

## 2ND YEAR

## 3RD YEAR

## 4TH OR FINAL YEAR

### GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

In first year, you will have the chance to explore the foundations of English along with some electives. Attend [Majors Night](#) in the Winter term to learn more about Plan 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.

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

Delve more deeply into the discipline of English, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as [International Studies](#). Learn more about [Certificates](#) and [Internship](#) options.

Develop your entrepreneurial skills by participating in the [Dean's Changemaker Challenge](#) (ASCX 200/300).

A chance to start grouping courses in areas of interest, or to keep it more general and explore many areas of English. 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 seminar-sized 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).

Interested in working on a real-world problem with an actual client? Take [ASCX 400](#) and develop your consulting and project-management skills.

### GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Get involved in student publications, such as the [Queen's Journal](#), [MUSE](#), or [Ultraviolet Magazine](#). Explore broadcasting opportunities at [CFRC](#) and [QTV](#). If you are interested in creative writing courses, work on your portfolio.

See the [AMS Clubs Directory](#) or the [Queen's Get Involved](#) page for more ideas.

Look into summer jobs by talking to Career Services about work through [SWEP](#) or [Work-Study](#). Think about applying to positions in student services or the [Alma Mater Society](#).

If interested, apply to work at an on-campus library or the [Queen's Learning Commons](#).

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. Consider entrepreneurial opportunities via programs like the [Queen's Innovation Connector Summer Initiative \(QICSI\)](#).

Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities 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.

### GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer on- or off-campus with different community organizations, such as [Frontier College/Queen's Students for Literacy](#) or [Kingston WritersFest](#).

Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC).

Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as [Soul Food](#) and [Inquire publication](#).

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 [Modern Languages Association \(MLA\)](#).

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

### GET THINKING GLOBALLY

Prepare for work or studies in a multicultural 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.

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](#), and consult with the UG Chair regarding transfer credits. If interested, take English courses for a summer or a term at [Bader College](#).

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

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

### GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Grappling with program decisions? Go to [Majors Night](#) or get some help with 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 [advice 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 for the [Queen's Career Apprenticeship: Kingston \(QCA:K\)](#).

CONSIDER A 12-16 MONTH QUIP INTERNSHIP

CONSIDER A 12 MONTH QCA:K APPRENTICESHIP

### What will I learn?

A degree in English can equip you with:

- Communication skills to present ideas clearly and persuasively, orally and in writing
- Problem solving to approach a complex topic systematically
- Textual analysis to understand how texts create meaning and emotional impact
- Logical thinking to construct an argument for maximum persuasiveness, and to use evidence appropriately
- Research to gain the knowledge you need to support your argument
- History of ideas to understand how cultural forms and notions of value change in time
- Literary theory to explore some of the ways in which literature has been defined, evaluated, and used by different thinkers
- Cultural study to understand the differences between high and low cultural forms, and their function in society throughout history
- Resource and time management

### Where can I go?

A degree in English 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:

- Advertising
- Archives
- Business writing
- Copywriting
- Editing
- Human resources
- Journalism
- Public relations
- Publishing
- Technical writing

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

### 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.

# English



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.



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# 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](mailto:quip@queensu.ca) or visit the [Program Website](#).

## Why study in Kingston?

For over 175 years, 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 identified as 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. At a university with more clubs per capita than any other university in Canada, and in 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.

