Chemistry explores the composition, structure, and transformation of matter. Frequently called the central science, it provides the basis for studies in many other disciplines, ranging from biology to materials science, in addition to being a booming discipline of its own.

Alumni story

Not too long ago, Jenny Du was a student at Queen’s. Now she’s living the California lifestyle at a cool startup. As the Director of Extraction, Jenny works with a team at Apeel Sciences to use natural plant extracts to formulate edible coatings that work to extend the shelf-life of fresh produce.

TOP 5 Reasons To Study Chemistry

1. Chemistry opens very broad career options.
2. With extensive experimental training, Chemistry studies are very hands-on and fun!
3. Queen’s Chemistry Department is a very supportive and nurturing environment; our graduating class is small and close-knit.
4. All major and specialization students conduct research in fourth year as part of their plan.
5. Queen’s Chemistry programs are accredited by the Canadian Society for Chemistry.

TOP ALUMNI JOBS

- 10% of alumni work in GOVERNMENT
- 11% of alumni work in HEALTH & MEDICINE
- 14% of alumni work in RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT
- 32% of alumni work in EDUCATION

2022-23 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


That is a degree from Queen’s.
2022-2023

Chemistry MAJOR MAP

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONOURS): SPECIALIZATION, MAJOR, MINOR

1ST YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Chemistry in biology, chemistry, geography and geology along with some electives.

Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Join clubs on campus such as Let’s Talk Science, Science Rendezvous. See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen’s Get Involved page for more ideas.

Volunteer on or off-campus with community organizations such as Science Rendezvous.

Consider joining an intramural sports or an athletics team. Check out the Athletics and Recreation site

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC). Connect with professors at socials or attend speaker events. Start or continue volunteering.

Consider joining associations like the Chemical Institute of Canada or the American Chemical Society (ACS). Check with the Chemistry Innovation Council (QICIC).

GET THINKING глобально

Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.

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

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Grasping with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services. Attend departmental information sessions on Plan selection (March).

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 MCAT) and get help thinking about grad school from Career Services, as well as departmental resources; start looking into graduate school scholarship applications.

2ND YEAR

GET DEEPER INTO THE DISCIPLINE OF CHEMISTRY

Start going deeper into the discipline of Chemistry, while considering a minor or certificate. Attend Degree Fair in the Fall term to learn more about Certificate and Internship options.

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

3RD YEAR

A CHANCE TO START GROUPING COURSES IN AREAS OF INTEREST

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

GET EXPERIENCE

Consider applying to do a 12-16 month Quip Internship between your third and fourth year.

Investigate requirements for full-time jobs, graduate studies, or other opportunities. Assess what you’re lacking and fill in gaps – check out the Career Services workshops for help. Consider presenting your research results at the Southern Ontario Undergraduate Student Chemistry Conference in the Spring or at the Science Rendezvous.

4TH OR FINAL YEAR

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

Consider joining associations like the Chemical Institute of Canada or the American Chemical Society (ACS). Check with the Chemistry Innovation Council (QICIC).

Investigate options, build experience and apply for 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.

C O N S I D E R A 1 2 - 1 6 M O N T H Q U I P I N T E R N S H I P

In third year, consider applying for Accelerated M.Sc. studies in Chemistry at Queen’s to get a head start on graduate studies.

1. Academic and technical skills to conduct research, understand scientific journal articles, trouble-shooting, clearly explain and interpret research data
2. Organizational skills to compile, organize and maintain accurate records
3. Ability to operate laboratory equipment and to employ appropriate scientific lab techniques
4. Proficiency in mathematical and logical analysis
5. Sensitivity to the health and safety of others - safe handling, storage and disposal of hazardous chemicals
6. Written and oral communication skills to prepare and present reports from research ideas and information using current technology
7. Team working in a multidisciplinary context
8. Practical and fundamental knowledge of all subdisciplines of chemistry

Where can I go?

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

• Environmental research
• Forensic science
• Environmental sustainability
• Materials science
• Patent law
• Pharmaceuticals
• Public health
• Quality control
• Sustainability design

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.
Chemistry

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.

Why study in Kingston?

For 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 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.