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.

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.


That is a degree from Queen’s.

queensu.ca/english
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 offers suggestions – you don’t have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the My Major Map tool.
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.

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.

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