Indigenous Studies

The major in Indigenous Studies is an interdisciplinary degree, designed to draw together a range of course offerings on Indigenous history, culture, experience, language, and ways of knowing from many departments within Arts and Science. It will give both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students the opportunity to immerse themselves in Indigenous history and culture, to ensure that future leaders and policymakers have a solid foundation in the histories of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples. Students expand their knowledge and understanding of Indigenous cultures, while developing professional skills such as innovative Indigenous approaches to learning and research to work with Aboriginal communities.

alumni STORY

“Through the interactions and the knowledge I have gained both in and outside of classes, I have grown as an individual in the best ways possible. In order to change the world, we must first change ourselves.”

- Lauren Ball, BAH ’19

5 REASONS to study INDIGENOUS STUDIES

1. Students become qualified educators on the lived histories and current realities of Indigenous peoples in Canada and beyond, therefore contributing to the reconciliation process.

2. Students learn minimum of two to three Indigenous languages at the beginner level.

3. Students will develop skills to work with Indigenous knowledge systems and Indigenous methodologies, framed by Indigenous pedagogies and learning practices.

4. Classes combine traditional classroom education with experiential learning such as engagement with local Indigenous communities.

5. Interdisciplinary courses from the humanities, social sciences and beyond will broaden your worldviews and strengthen your critical thinking skills.

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.
Indigenous Studies MAJOR MAP

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

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

1ST YEAR
- Start with Indigenous Language courses; choose from Anishnaabemowin, Mohawk, or Oneida.
- Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options. Visit ISSS Student Academic Support Services and the Writing Centre for some help.

2ND YEAR
- Complete the core courses DEVS 220 and DEVS 221, take option courses at 200-level and complete the language requirement.
- Introduce yourself to your professors and talk with them about their courses in the program.

3RD YEAR
- Get outside and spend some time learning from the land, with INDG 395. Complete INDG 302; finish option courses at 200-level and start option courses at 300-level.
- Start thinking about ideas for the fourth-year capstone course INDG 401. Meet with an Academic Advisor to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for next year.

4TH OR FINAL YEAR
- Get outside and spend some time learning from the land, with INDG 395. Complete INDG 401.
- Participate in research-based courses, including the INDG 401 capstone, 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 Queen’s Native Student Association, or Queen’s Health Outreach. Get involved with the Indigenous Studies Program Student Council (PSC).
- See the INDG info section of the LLCU website or the Queen’s Get Involved page for more ideas.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

- Visit the Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre (FDISC) and check out their programs. Introduce yourself to the Elders in Residency in the Office of Indigenous Initiatives.
- Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations like Kahswenha Indigenous Knowledge Initiative.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUC's Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate.
- Speak to Indigenous Advisor at FDIC to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.
- Want to research other Indigenous Peoples’ lives? Start thinking about where you would like to study abroad. Apply in January for a third year exchange through the International Programs Office. Look into studying at Bader College in the UK.
- Check out the Matariki Indigenous Student Mobility Programme for opportunities to study at partner universities.
- Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures by practicing or improving your indigenous language skills. Join World Link Programs (QLC).

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

- Grappling with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help with career options from Career Services.
- Build your transferable skills in time management, problem-solving, writing and more with Student Academic Success Services.
- Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area. For more information check out Career Cruising or find and connect 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.

CONSIDER A 12-16 MONTH QUIP INTERNSHIP

- Consider submitting a piece to the Queen’s Journal of Indigenous Studies. Participate in a conference like Inquiry@Queen’s.
- What experience and requirements for your career(s) of interest are you lacking? Fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships; check out the Career Services skills workshop for help.

- Consider joining professional associations like the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association or the Indigenous Literary Studies Association.
- Start thinking about work or further studies abroad. International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an International Student Advisor.

WHERE CAN I GO?

- A degree in Indigenous Studies can take your career in many directions. You may choose to continue your academic inquiry with a Master’s degree. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:
  - Indigenous community liaison
  - Cross-cultural consultancy
  - Social Services
  - Policy Analysis
  - Indigenous language and culture education
  - Education
  - Anthropology

- 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.
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.