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.

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, while still immersed in our diverse teaching environment, to physical, emotional or spiritual resources – ranging from help with academics and careers, while still immersed in our diverse teaching environment, to physical, emotional or spiritual resources – our welcoming living and learning environment can help with short-term decisions about courses and experiences, but also help you keep motivated for success.

For more information, contact quil@queensu.ca or visit the Program Website.

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 retention rates, the highest graduation rates, and one of the highest employment rates among recent graduates. We are a research intensive university focused on your passions outside of computing while still immersed in our diverse multidisciplinary offerings.

Top 5 REASONS to study COMPUTING

1. Computing is one of the top degrees for career opportunities in North America.
2. Learn from outstanding professors who are internationally recognized experts and committed educators.
3. Gain the skills and theoretical knowledge you’ll need to excel as a computer scientist.
4. Take courses which reflect the sweeping uses of computing in all aspects of modern life.
5. Test the waters and explore your passions outside of computing while still immersed in our diverse multidisciplinary offerings.

Our alumni go on to work for...

Adobe
Amazon
Apple
CBC/Radio-Canada
Cisco Systems
Electronic Arts
Facebook
Google
IBM
Microsoft
NASA
Oracle
SickKids Hospital
Statistics Canada
Symantec
Toronto-Dominion Bank

2.6 cGPA AUTOMATIC ACCEPTANCE
min B in CISC 12#
2.3 cGPA PENDING LIST
min B in CISC 12#

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
2019-2020

Computing MAJOR MAP *

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

1ST YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

First year is a good time to consider which area of computer science you would like to study, while learning the foundations of computer science and taking electives. We offer 8 main pathways to a Computing degree (or BA in the case of Computing and the Creative Arts).

Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn more about which path is right for you.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Join teams or clubs on campus such as the Queen’s Autonomous Sailboat Team (QAST).

Participate in Open Source Development projects. Join the Queen’s ACM Programming team. See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen’s Get Involved page for more ideas.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations such as Queen’s Women in Computing (QWiC).

Offer your services to a non-profit organization. Organize after school programming or robotics clubs in the local elementary or secondary schools.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUC’s Intercultural Competency Certificate and research possible immigration regulations.

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

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Grappling with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services.

Build your transferable skills in time management, organization, writing and more with Student Academic Success Services.

2ND YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

Start going deeper into the discipline of computer science, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity. Attend Degree Fair in the fall term to learn more about Certificates and Internships options.

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

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Talk to the School and their faculty about research opportunities through Undergraduate Summer Research Assistantships (NSERC/USRA).

Look into summer jobs by talking to the dept. or Career Services about work through SWEP or Work Study. Join the COMPSA Site Services team to develop websites. Be a COMPSA tutor.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Get involved with the Computing Students Association (COMPSA). Consider volunteering with initiatives such as high school programming competitions, Hour of Code, or local FIRST Robotic teams. Consider entrepreneurial opportunities via programs like the Queen’s Innovation Connector (QICSI) or Queen’s Summer Initiative (QSI).

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

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.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Explore careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as Careers in High Tech. For more information check out Career Cruising or by finding and connecting with alumni on LinkedIn.

3RD YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

A chance to start grouping courses in areas of interest. This is where you will begin to dive deeper into your chosen area of computer science. Meet with an Academic Advisor to make sure you are on track to complete your degree plan and have planned out your courses for next year.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Stay during the summer as an assistant to a faculty member. Consider applying to the 12-16 month Queen’s Undergraduate Internship Program through Career Services. Consult the School’s FAQ and consider applying.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Connect with professors at events or workshops hosted by the School. COMPSA and QWiC. Connect with alumni by joining the LinkedIn group Queen’s Computing, Attend conferences like the Canadian Celebration of Women in Computing (CAN-CWIC) and the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM).

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

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

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Start focusing on areas of interest. Research education requirements for careers of interest. If needed, prepare to take any required tests (like the MCAT or GMAT) and get help thinking about Grad School from Career Services.

4TH OR FINAL YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

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).

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

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

Consider joining professional associations like Canadian Information Processing Society, IEEE Computer Society and the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM).

JOIN groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific interests or specialties of interest to Computing.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

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

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

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.

What will I learn?

A degree in Computing can equip you with:

• Ability to design, develop and maintain software systems

• Oral and written communication to summarize complex ideas and present data in visual formats

• Ability to model and solve a diverse range of problems

• Critical thinking and systematic problem-solving approaches

• Proficiency in mathematics and logical computational thinking

• Resource and time management

• Project management

Where can I go?

A degree in Computing 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:

• 3D animation

• Artificial intelligence

• Computer programming

• Cryptography

• Data analytics

• Database administration

• Game development/design

• Graphic arts

• Information/software architecture

• Robotics

• Software development

• Software testing

• Sound design

• Systems administration

• Web development

• and much more!

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

Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormaps for the online version with links!

* This map is intended to provide suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone’s abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. Build your own Major Map using our online tool. My Major Map tool.