Environmental Science

Society has become more aware of the seriousness of the environmental problems we face. Yet, at the same time, we have realized that the solutions are not simple. To work towards environmental sustainability, people need to understand the scientific basis of environmental problems. They also need to have expertise in planning, policy and other fields to deal with the social, economic and cultural complexities that surround them.

**TOP 5 REASONS to study ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

1. Hands-on lab and field work. Get dirty, see results.
2. Gain transferable skills that employers want, while learning how to prepare arguments and solve problems.
3. Help create the future world in which you want to live.
4. The best way to find solutions: combining both the arts and the sciences.
5. Research-focused courses in upper years contribute to projects happening across Canada and around the world.

**ALUMNI JOBS**

- 5% of alumni work in **UTILITIES**
- 13% of alumni work in **ENVIRONMENT SERVICES**
- 25% of alumni work in **GOVERNMENT & LAW**
- 33% of alumni work in **EDUCATION**

**2019-20 major thresholds**

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<th>cGPA</th>
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**2019-20 major thresholds**

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<tr>
<th>cGPA</th>
<th>PENDING LIST</th>
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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

**add a CERTIFICATE to your degree**

- Employment Relations
- Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity
- Data Analytics
- Disability and Physical Activity
- 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

**alumni STORY**

“I think that it’s something that is really unique about our department. The fact that our program is so current with the issues our society is facing and that members of the department can unify over trying to find solutions to the problems.”

-Makenzie MacKay, BAH ‘17


That is a degree from Queen’s.

queensu.ca/ensc
### 1ST YEAR

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**

In first year you'll have the chance to explore the foundations of Environmental Science 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 teams or clubs on campus such as the Earth Centre or Queen's Backing Action on Climate Change. See Queen's Sustainability webpage, the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen's Get Involved page for more ideas.

- Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations. See community organizations listed by the department, including SWITCH Ontario and the City of Kingston.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**

Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC).

- Watch for events in the School of Environmental Studies through the department website. Start or continue volunteering with organizations.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**

Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUIC’s Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.

- Speak to a QUIC 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.

### 2ND YEAR

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**

Start going deeper into the discipline of Environmental Science, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Global Action and Engagement. Attend Degree + in the Fall term to learn more about Certificates and Internship 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.

**GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

Look into summer jobs by talking to the department or Career Services about work through SWEET or Work-Study.

- Take more responsibility within different clubs or extracurriculars.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**

Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC).

- Watch for events in the School of Environmental Studies through the department website. Start or continue volunteering with organizations.

**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.

- Consider studying abroad in the summer: look into taking BIOL 307, a China-Canada field course.

**GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION**

- Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as Career Opportunities in Conservation and the Environment.

### 3RD YEAR

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**

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

**GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

If interested, apply for an Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship (USRF). 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 (QICS).

- Connect with professors at events or workshops hosted by the DSC.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**

Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group

- Queen's Connects. Check out Career Services networking workshops.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**

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

- Think about Internship Opportunities abroad related to Environmental Studies.

**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 LSAT or GMAT) and get help thinking about Graduate 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 certificates.

**GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

Investigate full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest. If interested, look for environmental opportunities through Planet Friendly.

- 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 the Ontario Environmental Industry Association and the Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and Policy.

- Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in Environmental Studies.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**

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

- 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.

**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 Environmental Science can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- Interdisciplinary perspective to understand environmental topics from a scientific, philosophical and ethical point of view.
- Understand natural and human factors related to environmental problems.
- Knowledge of local, national, and global environmental problems and issues.
- Analytical skills to analyze data for trends and apply statistical tests.
- Ability to interpret data from scientific experimentation and make conclusions based on research.
- Experience with laboratory equipment.
- Critical thinking to form, defend, and evaluate arguments and propose solutions.
- Oral and written communication to create reports and give presentations.
- Teamwork to work as a team on a long-term project.
- Resource and time management.

### Where can I go?

A degree in Environmental Science 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:

- Agriculture
- Cartography
- Forestry
- Horticulture
- Land quality
- Meteorology
- Parks and natural reserves
- Transportation
- Waste management
- Water quality

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

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*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 My Major Map tool.*

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

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.

For more information, contact quip@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 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.