Health Sciences

Get to know

HEALTH SCIENCES

The Bachelor of Health Sciences (BHSc) program is a direct-entry program designed for students interested in human health. Human health can be studied from the perspectives of biomedical and social science, and the BHSc program aims to address both perspectives. Students who develop a particular interest in a specific area of the health sciences may choose to take one (or more) of six specially-designed learning tracks. These provide a more specialized focus within a particular field, ranging from Infection, Immunity, and Inflammation to Global and Population Health.

This program offers students access to courses that will prepare them for admission to a wide variety of health professional programs such as medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary medicine, and rehabilitation therapy. These programs are increasingly competency-based, meaning that their graduates must achieve and demonstrate competency in specific health-related roles. This concept has been built into the Bachelor of Health Sciences curriculum, enabling our graduates to provide evidence of their achievements as leaders, communicators, professionals, scholars, collaborators, content experts, and advocates, providing them with the language to communicate their skills gained throughout their undergraduate degree in their applications and interviews to these programs. Students interested in taking the health sciences program may also find careers in research, government or non-government organizations, or health administration.

Queen's BHSc is offered both on-campus and online, using interactive, engaging modules to deliver course content. The core courses in the on-campus program are offered in a blended format. This means that students come to class to interact with faculty members and peers in order to connect and apply concepts learned in class to problem solving scenarios, such as case studies, interpretation of scientific data, or mock conference presentations. The online program is designed to ensure our students interact with their faculty members and peers as well, via discussion boards and video software. Option and elective courses are available either on-campus or online for our on-campus students, to offer schedule flexibility.

Degree OPTIONS

Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours)
4 Years, 120 credits
Bachelor of Health Sciences (General)
3 Years, 90 credits

Course HIGHLIGHTS

The Bachelor of Health Sciences program has been purpose-built to expose learners to a wide range of knowledge in the field of health sciences. Innovative courses have been developed such as:

Developmental Origins of Health and Disease
Health Ethics, Law, and Policy
Evolutionary Biology of Cancer

In addition to these courses, the curriculum highlights a number of traditional fields within the health sciences, including Physiology, Pharmacology, and Anatomy, while also incorporating important topics such as Global and Population Health and Social and Physical Determinants of Health and Disease. Faculty members within the Health Sciences range from academics to practicing physicians providing Queen's BHSc students with a unique perspective on undergraduate education.

Queen’s ADMISSIONS

Applicants who have, or will successfully complete, a diploma from a Canadian or International high school will be considered through the traditional admission stream. Candidates can apply through OUAC (Code QH (on-campus) or QHO (online) or through Queen’s webapp (online). Applicants are required to have an 80% in 4U (or equivalent) English, 4U biology, 4U chemistry, and any 4U math, along with two additional 4U or 4M courses. Check online for courses required for students outside of Ontario.
2020-2021
Health Sciences

PROGRAM MAP *

BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCES | BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCES (HONOURS)

1ST YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

Take PHGY 170, ANAT 100, PHAR 100, HSCI 190/STAM 200, GLPH 171, and BMED 173. Also take 6.0 units of optional courses and 6.0 units of electives (which can include optional courses).

If you are planning on completing one (or more) of the six optional learning tracks, declare it with your Academic Advisor at the end of first year (bhscadvisor@queensu.ca).

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

If in Kingston, see the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen's Get Involved page for ideas to get involved.

Other ways to become involved include volunteering for after-school children's programs, volunteering in retirement residences, aiding the integration of recent immigrants to Canada, or volunteering at veterinary clinics or a local animal shelter.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer with various community organizations, such as local charities, local organizations that cater to a specific at-risk population, hospitals, public health units, or larger, national or global organizations such as Canadian Blood Services, the Canadian Red Cross, Medics Sans Frontières, Right to Play or Me to We.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

Think about international affairs and global health issues and how you would like to incorporate these areas into your degree.

Bilingualism opens up many job opportunities in Canada. Consider increasing your proficiency in French through Queen’s courses or language clubs, city-run programs, or through apps such as Duolingo. Rosetta Stone, or Babble.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Explore the BHSc program website to see how it can act as a stepping stone to a new healthcare career.

Need career advice? You can book an in-person, phone, or skype appointment with a career counsellor through MyCareer or call the Career Services reception at 613.533.2992.

2ND YEAR

Take PHGY 215/216, BMED 270, GLPH 271, BCHM 270, and one of MICR 270 or 271. Also take an additional 6.0 units of optional courses and 6.0 units of electives (which can include optional courses).

If you have declared one or more learning tracks, make sure that you are enrolled in the courses required to complete it. Review the courses available for each one on the BHSc website and register for them accordingly.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Look into attending, in person or by webcast, high profile Queen's conferences such as the Canadian Undergraduate Conference on Healthcare, TEDxQueensU, or Queen’s Healthcare and Business Conference. Begin to engage with a community organization to ready yourself for GLPH 471 and/or GLPH 493. If thinking of applying to a professional program, consult with a BHSc Academic Advisors.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Develop greater connections with the organizations that you volunteer for, taking on responsibilities or special projects that help the organization in a tangible manner. Get involved with the BHSc community by running for a position with the Health Science Society, becoming a COAT, or volunteering as a Q-Success mentor to first-year students.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

If you're looking to internationalize your degree or to leverage your existing cross-cultural experience, start brainstorming about what kind of experience you would like to have.

Consider going on exchange to one of the BHSc partner institutions, or volunteer/work abroad.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Grappling with program decisions? Talk to one of the BHSc Academic Advisors by emailing bhscadvisor@queensu.ca.

Look for opportunities to get hands-on experience in your field by becoming an intern at dental or veterinary clinics, in hospitals, or by looking for summer work opportunities in government/private laboratories.

3RD YEAR

Take BCHM 370, and PHAR 370. optional course can include opt if you're planin switch into the 4th year course have declared a with a general c completed the Apply to gradu

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Begin to engage to ready yourse for hands-on l advisor about h HSCI 592/593 or a shorter lab ex week BMED 39c month QUIP int fourth year.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Connect with Q career possibility

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

If you are intere to study at the l the UK.

Build your inten involved with o improving your

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Start focusing o which educatio Program websi prepare to take or DAT) and res opportunities ir Connect with Q

Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormaps for the online version with links!
CONNECT WITH QUEEN'S ALUMNI ON OPPORTUNITIES IN YOUR DESIRED FIELD.

OR DAT) AND RESEARCH POSSIBLE SCHOLARSHIPS/BURSARY PREPARE TO TAKE ANY REQUIRED TESTS (LIKE THE MCAT PROGRAM WEBSITE CAN HELP YOU START WHICH EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS ARE NEEDED; START FOCUSING ON AREAS OF INTEREST AND RESEARCH.

If you are interested, apply as an upper year student to the Bader International Study Centre in intercultural competencies by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or your language skills.

Your time at Queen's will give you valuable skills to boost your employability, including:

• Knowledge of cellular structures, organic systems, organic chemistry, and the functions of the human body
• Understanding of statistical research methods, the scientific method, and experimental design
• An appreciation for the social and scientific aspects that contribute to health and healthcare
• Research skills – ability to draw relevant information out of a large amount of data
• Attention to detail – analyze and interpret scientific data
• Problem solving – adopt a systematic approach to problems
• Oral and written communication – produce laboratory reports and present a report to a group
• Resource and time management
• Advocacy on behalf of different stakeholders/populations with the ability to craft messages based on the audience
• Collaborating with peers to achieve common goals

Where could I go after graduation?

• Biotechnology
• Dentistry
• Drug development
• Environmental management
• Forensics
• Health administration and public health
• Medical and clinical research
• Medicine
• Microbiology
• Neuroscience
• Occupational health and safety
• Optometry
• Toxicology
• Veterinary medicine

*Some careers may require additional training and you may need to ensure your BHSc course selections fulfill the required prerequisites. Careers paths are suggestions only.

My Major Map tool.

*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.
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, and Queen’s wants you to succeed! Check out the Student Affairs website for available resources.

Distinguishing HEALTH SCIENCES

Health Sciences (BHSc) is one of four health-focused programs at Queen’s, which also include Life Sciences (BSc), Biochemistry (BSc), and Health Studies (BA). Health Sciences provides balance between the biomedical side of health, a focus of the Life Sciences and Biochemistry programs, and the social sciences side of health, a focus of the Health Studies program. Queen’s Health Sciences has an emphasis on skill (competency) building by ensuring students have the opportunity to practice these skills in their course assessments. It is also the only direct-entry program out of the four, meaning that beginning in year 1, you would be diving into health sciences-specific courses!

Online HEALTH SCIENCES

Our online BHSc program, with its inaugural students being accepted in 2016, offers maximal flexibility for our students. Students can complete courses on a timetable that best suits their lifestyle. The degree may be completed on either a full-time or part-time basis, there are different entry points throughout the year, and students can choose from a General or Honours degree. Admission requirements for direct entry are the same as the on-campus program, however for students who lack the traditional requirements, there is an alternate route of admission to the online program. Applicants would apply as a non-degree student initially, and work towards progressing into the degree program by taking three specified first year courses and attaining a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in those courses. Ask an advisor (bhscadvisor@queensu.ca) for more details on this admission route. Finally, the online courses offered by the BHSc program are highly interactive, providing content through a variety of multimedia, along with the opportunity for reflection and self-assessment along the way.