The unique group of scientists and faculty involved with Life Sciences at Queen’s share a common goal: to lessen the impact of disease and trauma by training the next generation of health care scientists and professionals. One of the largest Bachelor of Science degree programs at Queen’s, Life Sciences is in high demand by students who wish to pursue careers in biomedical research and health care.

**TOP 5 REASONS to study LIFE SCIENCES**

1. Preparation for a career in health care or biomedical research.
2. Cutting-edge research in drug development and human toxicology, cancer biology, genetics, reproduction, microbiology, experimental medicine, and neuroscience.
3. Our internship program (QUIP) offers a range of careers to explore and companies to learn from.
4. Summer research (SWEP) assistant positions with professors.
5. Home to the Cancer Research Institute, the Centre for Neuroscience Studies, and the Cardiac, Circulation, and Respiratory Group.

**ALUMNI JOBS**

- **5%** of alumni work in GOVERNMENT
- **9%** of alumni work in PHARMACEUTICALS
- **27%** of alumni work in EDUCATION & RESEARCH
- **33%** of alumni work in HEALTH CARE

**2020-21 major & specialization thresholds**

- **3.2 cGPA** AUTOMATIC ACCEPTANCE
  - min pass in CHEM 112 and 27 units
- **2.0 cGPA** PENDING LIST
  - min pass in CHEM 112 and 27 units

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.

**Alumni Story**

“Life Sciences opened my eyes to the opportunities and careers available in the science field. The hands-on labs gave me practical experience that was extremely valuable for my subsequent studies.”

-Jan Slipka, BScH’14

**Acquire Skills. Gain Experience. Go Global.**

That is a degree from Queen’s.

healthsci.queensu.ca/liscbchm
In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Life Sciences in biology, chemistry, math and physics along with some electives. Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options. Decide whether the major with or without a minor or the specialization route is best for you.

Start going deeper into the discipline of Life Sciences, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Disability and Physical Activity. 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.

Join teams or clubs on campus such as the Synthetic Biology Organization, Queen's First Aid or Universities Allied for Essential Medicine. See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen's Get Involved page for more ideas.

Look into summer jobs by talking to the dept. or Career Services about work through SWEP or NSERC. Take more responsibility within different clubs or extracurriculars. Consider volunteering at Student Wellness Services or other health centres.

Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations, such as Let's Talk Science (LTS), Queen's Union on Tropical Access to Health, or local charities. Consider getting involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC). Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as the Canadian Undergraduate Conference on Healthcare (CUCOH).

Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUIC's Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations. Speak to a QUIC advisor to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.

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. Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Career Advising and Resource Area, such as Academia to Biotechnology. For more information, connect with alumni on LinkedIn.

Grappling with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services. Attend Information Sessions in November and January offered by the Associate Dean, Life Sciences and Biochemistry. Attend Canadians Studying Medicine Abroad offered by the Associate Dean, Life Sciences and Biochemistry.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormaps for the online version with links!
A chance to start grouping courses in areas of interest (specialization route), or to keep it more general and explore many areas of Life Sciences (major route). Meet with an Academic Advisor in the Life Sciences and Biochemistry Program Office.

In fourth year you will have the chance to participate in specialized-research courses that can lead to Graduate School or to your future career path. Make sure to finish up all your courses for your degree and your optional certificate(s).

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.

Consider joining professional associations like the Analytical, Life Science & Diagnostics Association.

Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in Life Sciences.

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

What will I learn?

A degree in Life Sciences can equip you with:

- Knowledge of the cellular structures, organic systems, organic chemistry, and the functions of the human body
- Understanding of statistical research methods, the scientific method and experimental design
- Research skills leading to an ability to draw relevant information out of a large amount of data
- Fieldwork skills to design and carry out site investigations to solve problems
- Attention to detail to analyze and interpret scientific data
- Problem solving to adopt a systematic approach to problems
- Oral and written communication for procedure laboratory reports and present a report to a group
- Time and resource management

Where can I go?

A degree in Life Sciences 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:

- Animal research
- Drug development
- Epidemiology
- Food science and technology
- Genetics
- Medical and clinical research
- Neuroscience
- Optometry
- Public health
- Toxicology

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

**Consider a 12-16 Month QUIP Internship**

- 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 (QICSI) and the Summer Company Program.
- Targeted networking with alumni working in areas of interest by joining the LinkedIn group Queen’s Connects. Check out Career Services working workshops.
- Connect with professors at events or workshops tied by the DSC.
- Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or proving your language skills.

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

Canadians Studying Medicine Abroad offered by the Associate Dean, Life Sciences and Biochemistry.

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. Attend Town Hall meetings offered by the Associate Dean, Life Sciences and Biochemistry and provide input into the Program.

*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.*
Life Sciences

MAJOR MAP

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.

LIFE SCIENCES AND BIOCHEMISTRY
Botterell Hall, Room 815
18 Stuart Street
613-533-6527
healthsci.queensu.ca/liscbchm

QUIP QUEEN’S UNDERGRADUATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

START DATES
in May, September, or January

POSITIONS
are paid and full-time

WORK TERMS
are 12-16 months long

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
• Graduate with “Professional Internship” on your degree.
• Learn about current advances, practices and technologies in business and industry.
• Test drive a career, earn a competitive salary, and get real world experience.

ELIGIBILITY
• 2nd or 3rd Year Students
• Minimum GPA of 1.9

WHY QUIP?
• Gain a year of career-related work experience.
• Build network connections.
• Receive support from Queen’s staff in job search and during internship.

SAMPLE PAST INTERNSHIPS
Planning Logistics Intern
Communications & Market Research Intern
Resource Conservation Technician
Gymnastics Program Development Intern
Technical Writer
Economic Analyst

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

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 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.

We’re closer than you think

Queen’s University
Kingston

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