Philosophy, according to Plato, concerns itself with the good, the true, and the beautiful. Grappling with life’s big topics, it also provides students with critical thinking skills that enable you to uncover hidden assumptions, identify core premises, and evaluate arguments. We offer courses that span the history of philosophy, from the ancients to contemporary thinkers, and others that cover broad philosophical topics — from ethics and aesthetics to metaphysics and the nature of truth.

**TOP 5 REASONS to study PHILOSOPHY**

1. Philosophy puts you in dialogue with society’s brightest minds, from the ancients to more cutting-edge contemporary thinkers.
2. Philosophy is a gateway to professional degrees — Law, Medicine, Public Policy, and more.
3. Students gain analytical skills, and can better understand presuppositions behind arguments.
4. Philosophy will teach you to challenge your own worldview.
5. We offer exchange opportunities to more than 100 schools in over 30 countries.

**ALUMNI JOBS**

- 3% of alumni work in **HEALTH CARE**
- 13% of alumni work in **GOVERNMENT & NON-PROFIT**
- 18% of alumni work in **LAW**
- 27% of alumni work in **EDUCATION**

**2020-21 major thresholds**

- **0.7 cGPA** AUTOMATIC ACCEPTANCE min C in PHIL 1##
- **0.7 cGPA** PENDING LIST min pass in PHIL 1##

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

“We The Philosophy department is both intimate and vibrant — offering the benefits of smaller classes with the advantages of a diverse faculty. The departmental life is further enriched by the internationally renowned academics that frequently speak at our weekly classes.”

- Christine Esselmont, PhD

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

That is a degree from Queen’s.

queensu.ca/philosophy
2020-2021

Philosophy MAJOR MAP *

BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS): MAJOR, MEDIAL, MINOR, SPECIALIZATION

1ST YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

- In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Philosophy 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. See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen's Get Involved page for more ideas.
- Consider contributing to publications on campus such as Ultraviolet Magazine or the Queen's Journal.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

- Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations such as Frontier College Queen's Students for Literacy.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

- 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.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

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

2ND YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

- Start going deeper into the discipline of Philosophy, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Employment Relations. 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

- Take more responsibility within different clubs or extracurriculars.
- Think about applying to positions in student services or the Alma Mater Society. Look into summer jobs by talking to the department or Career Services about work through SWEP or Work-Study.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

- Get involved with the Philosophy Departmental Student Council (DSC).
- Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as Queen's Model Parliament. If interested, attend events hosted by QIAA or the Queen's Debating Union.

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 different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as the Philosophy Major's Career Handbook. 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, or to keep it more general and explore many areas of Philosophy. Meet with an Academic Advisor to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for next year.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Deepen extracurricular experiences. If interested, apply for an Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship (USSRF). Consider applying to do a 12-16 month QUIP internship between your third and fourth year.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

- Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations such as Frontier College Queen's Students for Literacy.
- Get involved with the Philosophy Departmental Student Council (DSC).
- If interested, attend events hosted by QIAA or the Queen's Debating Union.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

- Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group Queen's Connects.
- Check out Career Services networking workshops.
- Attend the Philosophy Colloquium series. Connect with professors at events or workshops hosted by the DSC.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUIC's Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.
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Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormaps for the online version with links!
A chance to start grouping courses in areas of interest, or to keep it more general and explore many areas of Philosophy. Meet with an Academic Advisor to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for next year.

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).

What will I learn?
A degree in Philosophy can equip you with:
- Think critically and systematically
- Generate ideas about complex subjects
- Use methods of analysis and logical reasoning
- Form and defend positions
- Consider unfamiliar ideas and evaluate opposing arguments
- Identify underlying assumptions across a range of issues
- Summarize and communicate complex material
- Speak and write at a superior level
- Interpret historical and contemporary ideas and texts
- Listen attentively, read carefully, and reflect thoughtfully
- Work in groups to solve problems and make presentations
- Manage your time and resources

Where can I go?
A degree in Philosophy 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:
- Applied ethics
- Archives
- Cultural affairs
- Human rights
- Media and communications
- Medical ethics
- Politics and government
- Public and private research
- Public policy

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

ID YEAR

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4TH OR FINAL YEAR

- 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).

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- Public policy

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Consider publishing in an undergraduate journal, such as McMaster’s Perceptia or UBC’s Hemlock.

Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities career related. 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 serving on the Executive of the PHIL DSC. Keep attending the Colloquium.

Consider joining the Canadian Philosophical Association.

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

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.

* 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.
PHILOSOPHY
DEPARTMENT OF
Faculty of Arts and Science
312 Watson Hall
49 Bader Lane
613-533-2182
queensu.ca/philosophy

Philosophy

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

DEPARTMENT OF
PHILOSOPHY

Queens's University
Faculty of Arts and Science
312 Watson Hall
49 Bader Lane
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queensu.ca/philosophy

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 us as one of the GREATEST UNIVERSITY TOWNS in the world – and is often awarded the safest city in Canada. We are 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.

Queens's University

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