Get to know ENGINEERING PHYSICS

This program allows students to apply the knowledge of fundamental physical principles underlying modern technology and processes. You will study a strategic combination of math, physics and engineering courses from a chosen specialty area. Courses in quantum mechanics, laser optics and nanotechnology will help prepare you for an engineering career at the leading edge of technology. You will acquire advanced problem-solving and instrumentation skills, and will be able to apply your superior mathematical, analytical and abstract-thinking ability to modern engineering challenges.

Degree OPTIONS

Bachelor of Applied Science in Engineering
Bachelor of Applied Science in Engineering with Professional Internship

All students in Engineering Physics specialize by taking one of 4 options: Mechanical, Computing, Electrical or Materials Engineering. Students in each option take a significant number of courses at the same level as those in the engineering major. Graduates of these specializations can work as engineers in their chosen specialization and continue to graduate school in the option.

Queen’s ADMISSIONS

Students apply to Queen’s Engineering (QE) through the OUAC (Ontario University Application Centre) website. Secondary school prerequisites include five 4U and 4M courses, one of which must be English 4U. Calculus and Vectors 4U, Advanced Functions 4U, Chemistry 4U, and Physics 4U are all required. A final competitive minimum grade of 80% must be obtained in all courses. Applicants outside of Ontario may have additional requirements.

A Common START

Queen’s is unique in offering a common first year along with an open discipline choice. When you do choose your program, you don’t have to worry about caps or quotas. Provided you pass all of your first year courses, you are guaranteed a place in your engineering program of choice. Queen’s also offers Section 900, a special extended program for students struggling with first year courses. Take things at a slower pace and recover in time for second year.

Course HIGHLIGHTS

Engineering Physics students have the opportunity to take a wide range of technical courses to help prepare them for the many possible career destinations available. Such courses including:

- Laser Optics
- Nanoscience and Nanotechnology
- Nuclear Physics
- Medical Physics
- Solid State Devices
- General Relativity

Students also do sophisticated experiments and work together in engineering design through all four years of the program.

"Queen’s Physics Professor Emeritus Dr. Arthur B. McDonald was awarded the 2015 Nobel Prize in Physics with Takaaki Kajita of Japan. His research, leading the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory, unlocked the mystery of neutrinos - fundamental particles created in the Sun’s core. Engineering Physics students have been involved in this research since its beginning, and continue to collaborate in world leading experiments and research during their studies."
Get the courses you need

- Queen's Engineering first year is common – courses include: Physics, Chemistry, Calculus, Algebra, Graphics, Computing and Earth Systems Engineering.
- Also APSC 100: the entry level course in our Engineering Design and Practice Sequence (EDPS), focusing on problem solving, experimentation principles and finishing off with a team-based engineering project.
- Discipline selection will take place in February!

Get relevant experience

- Join teams or clubs on campus, or an engineering design team such as Queen's University Experimental Sustainability Team, Queen's Space Engineering Team, Queen's Solar Design Team, and The Mostly Autonomous Sailboat 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 Let's Talk Science (LTS), Women in Science and Engineering, Science Rendezvous, and Engineers Without Borders (EWB).

Get thinking globally

- Speak to a QUIC advisor or get involved in their programs, events and training opportunities.
- Prepare for work or study in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QUIC and Four Directions: Indigenous Student Centre, and research possible immigration regulations.
- Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to study abroad. Queen's facilitates exchanges with some of the top schools for physics in the world. University of NSW, and Delft University, among others.
- If exchange isn’t for you, come talk to QUIC about some other options to gain international experience.

Get ready for life after graduation

- Grappling with program decisions? Go to the Orientation Evenings held by different Engineering departments and attend the various Career Fairs during the year.
- Get some help deciding by visiting Career Services.
- Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Career Advising and Resource Area, such as Career Opportunities in Engineering. For more information check out Career Cruising or by finding and connecting with alumni on Queen's Connects.
- Start focusing on an area 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 grad school from Career Service.

Consider a 12-16 month QUIC internship

- 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 Career Services workshops for help.

- Consider joining professional associations like Canadian Association of Physics (CAP), American Physical Society (APS), Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), and American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).
- Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers.

Employability skills

- Your time at Queen’s will give you valuable skills to boost your employability, including:
  - Proficiency in mathematics and numerical modeling with courses in math and physics
  - Time and resource management – taught formally in class and then applied in your projects
  - Work independently and in a team on a project – a group project is undertaken every year and a thesis in the final year
  - Able to solve complex problems using your broad scientific knowledge
  - You gain practical skills as an engineer, and back them up with the deep knowledge of a scientist
  - Ability to make careful measurements with sophisticated equipment in laboratory classes
  - Proficiency with modern physics allowing you to work with tomorrow’s technologies

Where could I go after graduation?

- Aerospace engineer
- Automotive industry
- Astrophysics
- Atmospheric science
- Biophysics
- Computer engineering
- Energy (nuclear, solar, wind, etc.)
- Environmental management
- Financial modelling
- Forensic science
- Management consulting
- Medicine
- Nanotechnology
- Nuclear engineering
- Oceanography
- Semiconductors and electronics
- Software engineering

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

*Some careers may require additional training. Listed careers are only suggestions.

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

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.