Geography can be defined as the integrated study of the Earth’s places, societies, environments and landscapes. Among academic disciplines, Geography is unique in combining the social sciences and humanities with the physical sciences. In physical geography, or earth system science, we study natural processes, their interactions, as well as natural and human-generated environmental issues, such as climate change.

**TOP 5 REASONS to study GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING**

1. Hands-on lab and field work. Engage communities, see results.
2. Gain a wide range of transferable skills that stand out in the labour market, like teamwork, cultural sensitivity, and tech savviness.
3. Learn to make sensible judgements about matters involving the physical environment and society.
4. Question the world you live in and get the skills you need to change it.
5. Join a community of scholars with close and interactive relationships with each other.

“Traveling and asking sometimes difficult questions was an integral part of my two geography degrees at Queen’s… the trilogy of land, people, and the struggle over resources, which formed the basis of much of my geography training, shapes not only how we should understand conflicts, but also how we can work to resolve them.”

-Krista House, BAH ’97

**ALUMNI JOBS**

4% of alumni work in **CONSULTING**

6% of alumni work in **BANKING & INVESTMENT**

16% of alumni work in **GOVERNMENT**

32% of alumni work in **EDUCATION**

**2020-21 major thresholds**

- **1.9 GPA** AUTOMATIC ACCEPTANCE min C- in GPHY 1##
- **1.9 GPA** PENDING LIST

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

**Acquire Skills. Gain Experience. Go Global.**
That is a degree from Queen’s. queensu.ca/geographyandplanning
2020-2021

Geography MAJOR MAP *

BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS) or BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONOURS): MAJOR, MEDIAL, MINOR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

1ST YEAR

In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Geography in biology, chemistry, geography and geology along with some electives.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

2ND YEAR

Start going deeper into the discipline of Geography, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Geographic Information Science and/or Urban Planning Studies. 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 CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

3RD YEAR

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

Contact faculty members during their office hours or through the geography website to inquire about summer assistant positions. 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 THINKING GLOBALY

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).

Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest.

Consider joining professional associations like Canadian Association of Geographers, the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis and the Canadian Remote Sensing Society.

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

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.

Apply in the fall for SSHRIC and DGS scholarships if applying to grad school in Ontario.

What will I learn?

A degree in Geography can equip you with:

- Understanding of the interrelationships between people, places and environments
- Knowledge of social, cultural, economic and political factors affecting societies and environments, physical and biophysical aspects of the earth's environments, and the earth system
- Oral and written communication to write reports and give presentations
- Field research skills to conduct field studies by installing sensors and data loggers to measure and monitor physical processes
- Laboratory research skills to collect snow, water, soil and vegetation samples for bioecochronological analysis in the laboratory
- Analytical skills to analyze spatial information and data using computer technologies such as Geographic Information Systems (e.g. ESRI ArcAtlas), Remote Sensing and Image Processing, and statistical methods

Where can I go?

A degree in Geography 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:

- Oceanography
- Mapping and surveying
- Landscape architecture
- Immigration services
- Heritage conservation
- GIS specialist
- Farming
- Demography
- GIS specialist
- Heritage conservation
- Immigration services
- Landscape architecture
- Mapping and surveying
- Oceanography
- Urban and regional planning

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

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

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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.
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.