GEOGRAPHY

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.

Sample Year by Year

1ST YEAR
- GPHY 101/3.0
- GPHY 102/3.0
- 8.0 units from MATH or STAT at the 100 level or above
- 6.0 units from CHEM or PHYS at the 100 level or above
- 12.0 units of electives

2ND YEAR
- GPHY 207/3.0
- GPHY 208/3.0
- GPHY 209/3.0
- GEOL 200/3.0
- GPHY 247/3.0
- GPHY 242/3.0 or GPHY 243/3.0
- 12.0 units of electives and/or minor

3RD YEAR
- 18.0 units from GPHY Options
- 12.0 units of electives and/or minor

4TH YEAR
- GPHY 415/6.0
- 12.0 units from GPHY Options
- 12.0 units of electives and/or minor

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

Note that degree requirements are revised regularly. The most current requirements, including course lists and options, are found in the Academic Calendar at: Quartsci.com/academic-calendar

"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

2018-19 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. For the latest information please visit: Quartsci.com

GEOGRAPHY

GPHY-M-BSH Major (Science) Bachelor of Science (Honours)

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

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

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*Please note if you were admitted to the Plan prior to May 2018 your requirements are slightly different.
## GEOGRAPHY MAJOR MAP

### GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

1. **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.
   - See the back page for specific courses to consider.
   - Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn more about plan options.

2. **2ND YEAR**
   - Start going deeper into the discipline of Geography, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Geographic Information Science. Attend Degree in the Fall term to learn more about Certificate 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.

3. **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 — for some ideas, see the back page.

4. **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).

### GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

1. **1ST YEAR**
   - Join teams or clubs on campus such as Queen's Project on International Development (QPID) and the Geography Explore Camp.
   - See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen’s Get Involved page for more ideas.

2. **2ND YEAR**
   - Look into summer jobs by talking to the dept. or Career Services about work through SWATP or Work Study.
   - Take more responsibility within different clubs or extracurriculars. Think about applying to positions in student services or the Alma Mater Society.

3. **3RD 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.

4. **4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
   - 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.

### GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

1. **1ST YEAR**
   - Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations, such as local charities or clubs like The Earth Centre.

2. **2ND YEAR**
   - Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC).
   - Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as the Royal Canadian Geographical Society.

3. **3RD YEAR**
   - Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group Queen’s Connects. Connect with professors at events or workshops hosted by the DSC. Volunteer at a conference or workshop (e.g. the Canadian Association of Geographers Annual General Meeting).

4. **4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
   - Consider joining professional associations like the 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 THINKING GLOBALLY

1. **1ST YEAR**
   - Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUC’s Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.
   - Speak to a QUC advisor to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.

2. **2ND YEAR**
   - 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.

3. **3RD YEAR**
   - Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your language skills, perhaps through the French for Professionals certificate.

4. **4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
   - International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an International Student Advisor.

### GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

1. **1ST YEAR**
   - Grappling with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services.

2. **2ND YEAR**
   - Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as Career Opportunities in Conservation and the Environment. For more information check out Career Cruising or by finding and connecting with alumni on LinkedIn.

3. **3RD YEAR**
   - Start focusing on areas 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 Services.

4. **4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
   - 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 SSHRC and OGS scholarships if applying to grad school in Ontario.

### What will I learn?

A degree in Geography can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- 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 biochemical analysis in the laboratory
- Analytical skills to analyze spatial information and data using computer technologies such as Geographic Information Systems (e.g. ESRI ArcView), 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:

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

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