What is Geology? The discovery and development of water, mineral, and energy resources – and their sustainability – is a key part of it. But so is coping with climate change, the human impact on our world, and the natural hazards facing a growing global population. These all depend on a deep understanding of natural processes gained through the study of Geology.

The department has state-of-the-art facilities, including X-ray Diffraction and Applied Geophysics Labs. Most students in the department gain over 240 hours of hands-on experience on various field trips. We are a small, friendly department. You will get to know your classmates and professors very well. The Miller Museum, our on-site museum right here at Queen’s, is your classroom. Our internship program (QUIP) offers a wide range of careers to explore and companies to learn from.

"The department embraces a work-hard, play-hard ethic that I believe transfers well to the workplace. It teaches that balance is important, and that how you get the work done is as important as getting the work done – a valuable lesson."

- Kirsten Pugh, BSc ’02

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

Sample Year by Year

1ST YEAR
- GEOL 104/3.0
- GEOL 107/3.0
- CHEM 112/6.0
- MATH 120/6.0 or MATH 121/6.0 or (MATH 123/3.0 and MATH 124/3.0)
- PHYS 104/6.0 or PHYS 106/6.0 or PHYS 117/6.0 or PHYS 118/6.0
- 6.0 units of electives

2ND YEAR
- GEOL 200/3.0
- GEOL 207/3.0
- GEOL 232/3.0
- GEOL 235/3.0
- GEOL 238/3.0
- GEOL 249/3.0
- STAT 263/3.0
- 9.0 units of electives and/or minor

3RD YEAR
- GEOL 300/3.0
- GEOL 301/1.5 or GEOL 302/1.5
- GEOL 321/3.0
- GEOL 365/3.0
- 18.0 units of electives and/or minor

4TH YEAR
- GEOL 401/1.5 or GEOL 402/1.5
- GEOL 488/3.0
- 12.0 units from GEOL
- 15.0 units of electives and/or minor

* Please note if you were admitted to the Plan prior to May 2018 your requirements are slightly different.
In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Geology 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 the course options.

In second year, you will be going deeper into the discipline of Geology, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Employment Relations. Attend Degree + in the Fall term to learn more about Certificate and Co-op 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.

In third year, you will have the chance to participate in research-based courses that can lead to a graduate degree or a career path. Make sure to finish up all your courses for your major and your optional minor and/or certificate(s).

In fourth year you will have the chance to work or study in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUIC’s Intercultural Speakers Series and the University Experimental Sustainability Team (QUEST) or the Queen’s Connects Annual Advances in Geological Science. If interested, attend the Gas Speakers Series and the International Association of Hydrogeologists Gas Speakers Series if you are interested in Geology.

Consider joining professional organizations such as the Geological Association of Canada, the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists, the International Association of Hydrogeologists and the National Ground Water Association. Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in Geology.

Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations, such as the Earth Centre and Women in Science and Engineering. Consider entrepreneurial opportunities via programs like the Queen’s Innovation Connector Summer Initiative (QCSI).

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Consider applying to do a 12-16 month QUIP internship between your third and fourth year. Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about Grad School applications, or to your future career. 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.

Get involved with the Miller Club (the Departmental Student Council). Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as Engineers Without Borders.

Get involved with Queen’s Connects. If interested, attend the Oil and Gas Speakers Series and the Annual Advances in Earth Sciences Research Conference. Investigate the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario (APGO) for the requirements to be qualified as a Professional Geoscientist.

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