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

Why study in Kingston?

For over 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 the experience of a lifetime at Queen’s – you will have the opportunity to conduct interdisciplinary research in dark matter and neutrinos happening below the surface of the Earth at the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory.


That is a degree from Queen’s.
**Physics MAJOR MAP**

*BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONOURS): SPECIALIZATION, MAJOR, MINOR*

**1ST YEAR**
- In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Physics in biology, chemistry, math and geology along with some electives.
- Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options.

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**

**2ND YEAR**
- Start going deeper into the discipline of Physics, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Global Action and Engagement. 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**

**3RD YEAR**
- Look into summer jobs by talking to the department or Career Services about work through SWEP or Work-Study.
- Consider entrepreneurial opportunities via programs like the Queen’s Innovation Connector Summer Initiative (QICSI).
- Consider applying to do a 12-16 month QUIP internship between your third and fourth year.
- Investigate off-campus summer jobs involving research (such as at SNOLAB). Apply for NSERC USRA, or directly to individual faculty members and research groups in Physics and Astronomy. Many Physics students volunteer with the on-campus Observatory in Ellys Hall.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**

**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
- Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest. Ask the what experience you’re lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering clubs, or internships – check out the Career Services skills workshop for help.
- Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group Queen’s Connects. Check out Career Services networking workshops.
- Consider applying to do a 12-16 month QUIP internship next year.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**

- Is it all going to be job hunting? Consider finding a way to spend a year abroad. Apply in January for a third year exchange through the International Programs Office.
- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUIC 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**

- What do you want to do next? Go to Majors Night or get some help wondering about Career options from Career Services.
- Grappling with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services.
- Exploring different 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 Service.

**What will I learn?**
- A degree in Physics can equip you with:
  - Knowledge of physics theories and mathematical models
  - Facility for quantitative mathematical and computational analysis
  - Proficiency in mathematics
  - Experience with laboratory equipment
  - Design experiences and develop and write research proposals
  - Write scientific literature
  - Draw conclusions from data and evaluate sources of error
  - Apply a systematic, analytical approach to problems

**Where can I go?**
- A degree in Physics 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:
  - Aerospace
  - Astrophysics
  - Computer simulations
  - Forensic science
  - Nanotechnology
  - Photonics
  - Planetary science
  - Radiology
  - Remote sensing
  - Robotics
  - Space science
  - Technology industry
  - Taking time to explore career options, build experience and network can help you smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

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