Politics is about power – who has it and how it is exercised by nation-states, individuals, groups, classes, or political parties, and how different interests are reconciled in and between communities. Political Studies is also concerned with the institutions created to govern communities, as well as with political practices such as voting habits or protests, and how rules, behaviours, and cultures are created in societies. Since power in society is often dependent upon material resources, political scientists also study the distribution of wealth, both within and between nations.

Erin Tolley earned her PhD from Queen’s in 2013. She is currently working on a book which examines how race affects the media’s portrayal of candidates in Canadian politics. Her article, “Do Women ‘Do Better’ in Municipal Politics? Representation Across Three Levels of Government” appeared in the Canadian Journal of Political Science.

**TOP 5 REASONS to study POLITICS**

1. Course topics examine facets of political theory as well as national and international politics.
2. Learn to think critically about the distribution of power and resources.
3. Diverse group of faculty and teaching fellows who are leading experts in their respective fields.
4. Learn how ideological and physical distributions inform systems of governance, political behaviour, and public policies.
5. Students are encouraged to consider taking part in an exchange program in their third year.

**ALUMNI JOBS**

- 9% of alumni work in BANKING & INVESTMENTS
- 16% of alumni work in EDUCATION
- 16% of alumni work in GOVERNMENT
- 16% of alumni work in LAW

**2019-20 major thresholds**

- 2.5 cGPA AUTOMATIC ACCEPTANCE min B in POLS110
- 1.9 cGPA 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

**Erin Tolley**

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**Acquire Skills. Gain Experience. Go Global.**

That is a degree from Queen’s.

queensu.ca/politics
Political Studies MAJOR MAP *

1ST YEAR

In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Political Studies along with some electives.

Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options.

2ND YEAR

Start going deeper into the discipline of Political Studies, 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.

3RD YEAR

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

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 your future career path. Make sure to finish up all your courses for your major and your optional minor and/or certificate(s).

What will I learn?
A degree in Political Studies can equip you with:
• Knowledge to identify patterns in current affairs based on understanding of different political systems and cultures
• Oral and written communication to write clear, succinct briefing notes and reports, and give engaging, effective presentations
• Research knowledge of various domains in politics to find reliable sources of information and to organize the investigation of a problem
• Problem solving to apply different theoretical perspectives (qualitative and quantitative) to reveal multiple dimensions of an issue
• Resource and time management to manage multiple long-term projects
• Logical reasoning to analyze concepts and assess arguments in debates about law and policy

Where can I go?
A degree in Political Studies 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:
• Campaign management
• Diplomatic service
• Foreign affairs
• Human resources
• International trade
• Public relations
• Research
• Social work

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

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

* 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.
**Political Studies**

**MAJOR MAP**

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 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.

**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.

**POLITICAL STUDIES**

DEPARTMENT OF

Faculty of Arts and Science
Mackintosh-Corry Hall C321
68 University Avenue
613-533-6230
queensu.ca/politics

**QUIP QUEEN’S UNDERGRADUATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

**START DATES**
in May, September, or January

**POSITIONS**
are paid and full-time

**WORK TERMS**
are 12-16 months long

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

- Graduate with “Professional Internship” on your degree.
- Learn about current advances, practices and technologies in business and industry.
- Test drive a career, earn a competitive salary, and get real world experience.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- 2nd or 3rd Year Students
- Minimum GPA of 1.9

**WHY QUIP?**

- Gain a year of career-related work experience.
- Build network connections.
- Receive support from Queen’s staff in job search and during internship.

**SAMPLE PAST INTERNSHIPS**

Planning Logistics Intern
Communications & Marketing Research Intern
Resource Conservation Technician
Course & Program Development Intern
Technical Writer
Economic Analyst

For more information, contact quip@queensu.ca or visit the Program Website.

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