Economics

Get to know ECONOMICS

Why should you study Economics? At its core, the social science of economics is concerned with the material well-being of human societies. It will help you understand the world in which you live and work. It will equip you to succeed in an increasingly knowledge-based and interdependent global economy. It will allow you to identify, describe and improve the strategies and incentives used by individuals, businesses and governments.

Economics will arm you with the tools to face a surprisingly wide range of problems that affect our everyday lives. Students in economics will learn how to document and value risk, study labour markets and global trade, design and assess government policies, and describe the operation of international currency markets. But there are so many other questions economists can ask. What determines the prices of goods and services? Why do stock and bond prices rise and fall? Why do some people earn so much, while others earn so little? Can carbon taxes slow global warming? How much should you spend or save? Where should you invest your savings? Should you buy a house? How does the tax system affect you, your family and the businesses in your neighbourhood? By showing you how to systematically address these questions and many, many more, economics will help you make better decisions in your personal life, in business and as a global citizen.

Degree PLANS

Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
Major / Medial / Minor in Economics / Major in Applied Economics / Major in PPE
Internship option available

Economics at Queen’s has a distinguished history and it ranks among the top research and teaching departments in Canada.

Course HIGHLIGHTS

Courses in Economics look at both micro and macro environments, from local to international markets. Courses such as Macroeconomic Policy, International Trade Policy, and Law and Economics are for those interested in policy development. Courses in Canadian Labour Relations, Labour Markets and Gender Differences, and Income Distribution and Problems of Inequality allow students to focus on areas related to equity and workforce issues. If you are more interested in how economics relates to specific industries, then courses in Natural Resource Economics or the Economics of Health Care are for you.

Queen’s ADMISSION

Students apply to Queen’s Arts (QA) through the OUAC (Ontario Universities’ Application Centre) website (ouac.on.ca). Secondary School prerequisites include six 4U and 4M courses, including a minimum of three 4U courses, one of which must be ENG4U. Applicants outside of Ontario may have additional requirements. Visit queensu.ca/admission for additional information regarding requirements and admission to Queen’s.

A Year to CHOOSE

We often say that our students are like explorers. In Arts and Science, your first year is all about making choices and exploring new paths. Whether you are in Arts, Science or Computing, you will choose your courses from a wide variety of subjects as you settle into university life and become familiar with new styles of learning. By the end of your first year, you will have discovered your areas of interest, passion and success, and will then declare your major. Your first year, whether you consider it to be undeclared, undecided or simply a time for exploration, is bound to be a year full of adventure.

That is a degree from Queen’s.

QUartsaci.com
*This map is intended to provide suggestions for potential activities and career paths, but everyone's abilities, experience, and constraints are different. Build your own map using our online My Major Map tool.

**1ST YEAR**

Get the Courses You Need

- In first year take ECON 110 or 111 and 112 along with MATH 121 or 126. ECON 111 and 112 are also offered at Hermononeux Castle.
- Build your transferable skills in time management, problem-solving, writing and more with Student Academic Success Services.

Get Relevant Experience

- Join teams or clubs on campus such as Queen's Capital, and the Queen's Project on International Development (OPID).
- See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen's Get Involved page for more ideas.

Get Connected with the Community

- Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations, such as the Queen's International Affairs Association (QIAA).

Get Thinking Globally

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

Get Ready for Life After Graduation

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

**2ND YEAR**

Get the Courses You Need

- In second year take ECON 212, 222, 250 and 255, along with courses outlined in the Academic Calendar.
- Consider a wide range of course options in economic policy or applied economics, including environmental economics, the economics of health care, labour markets and gender differences, economic development or economic history.
- Want to enhance your degree? Consider a certificate in Employment Relations or explore other certificates available.

Get Relevant Experience

- Look into summer jobs by talking to the dept. or Career Services about work through SWEP or Work-Study.
- Take more responsibility within different extracurriculars, such as Queen's Model Parliament. ECON majors are often found in the top positions in ASUS and the AMS.

Get Connected with the Community

- Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC) as a class representative, year representative, or on the executive. Go to workshops and conferences hosted by the Economics Department.

Get Thinking Globally

- Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to study abroad. Apply in January for a 3rd year exchange through the International Programs Office.

Get Ready for Life After Graduation

- Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as Careers in Finance For more information check out Career Cruising or by finding and connecting with alumni on LinkedIn.

**3RD YEAR**

Get the Courses You Need

- In third year ECON students take ECON 310, 320 and 351. Applied economics students take ECON 310 and 351, with the option of taking 320. Even more opportunities for advanced courses in economic theory, data analytics, investment analysis and risk assessment are outlined in the Academic Calendar.
- Need help mapping all of your core, option, supporting and elective courses (including those not listed above) to make sure you will have what you need to complete your degree? Use the Course Mapping Tool on the Arts and Science website.

Get Relevant Experience

- 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 or entrepreneurial opportunities via programs like the Queen's Innovation Connector Summer Initiative (QICSI).

Get Connected with the Community

- Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group Queen's Connects. Check out Career Services networking workshops.
- Connect with professors at social and academic events hosted by the DSC.

Get Thinking Globally

- Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your language skills.

Get Ready for Life After Graduation

- 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.

**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**

Consider a 12-16 Month QUIP Internship

- About two-thirds of ECON graduates find jobs in the public service or financial sector. Investigate internships or full-time jobs 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.

Where could I go after graduation?

- Accounting
- Actuarial science
- Auditing
- Banking
- Business Administration
- Central banking
- Credit Management
- Demography
- Environmental policy
- Finance
- Graduate studies
- Human resources
- Immigration services
- Insurance
- International development
- Investment analysis
- Labour and industrial relations
- Law
- Management consulting
- Medicine
- Monetary/fiscal policy
- Natural resource management
- Public Administration
- Quality control
- Real estate
- Risk management
- Sales analyst
- Securities Investment and Trade
- Strategic Planning
- Teaching
- Urban and Regional Planning

- Some careers may require additional training.

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.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormaps.html for the online version with links!
What can I learn studying ECONOMICS?

- Technical skills for collecting economic data and applying statistical analysis and modeling techniques
- Understand the impact of policies, interest rates, productivity, savings, investment and other economic factors on countries, firms and individuals
- Theoretical frameworks in micro and macroeconomics and econometrics
- Proficiency in mathematics
- Oral and written communication to analyze empirical and theoretical content, create technical and non-technical reports, and present information to a group
- Research skills to analyze information, test hypotheses, impose intellectual discipline, and isolate relevant evidence
- Logical reasoning to systematically approach complex problems, identify important assumptions, and focus on causal factors

What employers want

The Canadian Council of Chief Executives list the top 6 skills sought by employers as:

1. People skills
2. Communication skills
3. Problem-solving skills
4. Analytical abilities
5. Leadership skills
6. Industry-specific knowledge

Take the time to think about the unique skills you have developed at Queen’s, starting with the skills list here for ideas. Explaining your strengths with compelling examples will be important for applications to employers and further education. For help, check out the Career Services skills workshop.

Why study in Kingston?

For over 175 years, the Kingston community has been a collection of bright minds. We are proud that our city was named one of the top Intelligent Communities across the globe, an accolade largely due to the thousands of students who study here every single year. In fact, the BBC has identified Kingston as one of the GREATEST UNIVERSITY TOWNS in the world, which might be why Instagram named the city ‘the happiest place on the planet’. Just a quick drive to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and even New York, Kingston is a safe and liveable city. Not only are we known as the freshwater sailing capital of the world, Kingston is arguably the birthplace of hockey. Wondering what to do while you’re attending school? Queen’s has more clubs per capita than any other university in Canada, and Kingston has more restaurants per capita than any other city in North America; your time here is guaranteed to be ‘fresh made daily’.