Bachelor of Arts

carleton.ca/fass | carleton.ca/fpa | Co-op available in selected majors

Carleton’s Bachelor of Arts (BA) programs are designed with the understanding that how you learn is every bit as important as what you learn. We have a wide range of undergraduate programs that aim to inspire, challenge and empower you to participate in and help shape our ever-changing world.

Program of study
At Carleton, you can structure your BA according to what you want to achieve. You can choose a minor subject to complement your major subject and you can, in certain cases, pursue a concentration or a specialization—a set of courses in your major directed toward an area of expertise. If you are interested in two fields of study, you may be able to pursue them both in a combined program.

First-year Seminars
Our First-year Seminars (FYSMs) give you the opportunity to strengthen your critical-thinking skills through discussion and debate with both your professor and your peers. FYSMs consist of small classes of around 30 students, and you can choose from a large selection of seminars. carleton.ca/first-year-seminars

Finding your way
Not sure what you want to study? You’re not alone—we’re here to help you find your way. You can take time to explore your academic options by not selecting your major for your first year. You can choose from a wide variety of courses and get academic advice on possible majors and careers. Once you’ve discovered first-hand what Carleton has to offer, you’ll be in a better position to decide on your future path.

African Studies
Africa is the most culturally and geographically diverse continent on Earth. The African Studies program offers you an opportunity to study the histories, cultures, languages, geographies, politics and economics of this fascinating continent. You will also learn about the aids, trade and investment, and migration flows that link Africa to the rest of the world in the era of globalization.

Students in the Combined Honours program can benefit from a work placement opportunity, a mentorship program and the chance to study in Africa through our African Studies Abroad course or by doing their third year at one of the African universities with which Carleton has exchange agreements. Our students also benefit from our wide partnerships in Ottawa: government agencies and departments, African diplomatic missions, NGOs and other international organizations.

Career paths: business; education; foreign service; humanitarian aid work; international business; international development; journalism; policy analysis; research

Anthropology
In an increasingly pluralistic world, where people from different places and backgrounds frequently interact, it is ever more important to understand how human beings make sense of themselves and others across time and space. This is anthropology: the study of human beings in all their cultural, geographic and historic diversity. The anthropology program at Carleton is focused on sociocultural anthropology, which means we study contemporary cultural phenomena—such as globalization, climate change and new media technologies—primarily through close attention to the everyday lived experience of real people. As a student in the program, you will learn to understand and apply the insights of what is known as the ethnomethodic method, developing highly transferable skills in research, analysis, interpretation, writing, oral presentation and group work along the way. Taking advantage of Carleton’s position in the nation’s capital, which offers access to the collections of both the Canadian Museum of History and Library and Archives Canada, as well as a host of non-governmental and governmental agencies, we offer a co-op program, a field-placement course and provide students with a chance to do substantial independent research through the Honours Research Paper.

Career paths: community development; consultancies; counselling and mediation; education; environment; immigration services; international development; journalism; marketing and advertising; museology; personnel services; policy development; public health; applied research; urban planning

Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies
Language is an essential part of what it is to be human and this program gives you the opportunity to examine how language works in real life. In the Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies program you will develop and apply theories to solve everyday problems involving language. Course materials address such questions as: how languages are taught and learned, how language competencies are evaluated, how writing is used to perform a variety of functions, how language is used in specific social contexts, how language can influence society and vice versa, how government policies influence language practices and what makes a bilingual education program effective.

Minor programs in American Sign Language, Mandarin Chinese, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Spanish and Linguistics are also available.

Career paths: curriculum design; language testing; language-related high-tech industry; policy analysis; speech therapy; teaching; translation; writing

Art History
Why Art History? Examining how art was understood, made, used and experienced opens windows into every aspect of the societies we study. As an Art History student, you will gain historical and methodological frameworks for understanding imagery, allowing you to interpret them in different ways. An Art History BA provides you with invaluable skills applicable to a wide range of professions. These skills include oral and written communication; the identification, critical assessment and analysis of research materials; creative problem solving; critical thinking; visual and verbal communication technologies and techniques; and the ability to work independently and in groups.

Art History is also committed to experiential learning. Students in third or fourth year can take advantage of our practicum program, where they get real-world experience working in art galleries and other cultural institutions, such as the National Gallery of Canada, Library and Archives Canada, the Ottawa Art Gallery, the Canadian War Museum and the Canada Council Art Bank. Regular field trips and study abroad opportunities are also part of this commitment.

Career paths: archival work; art collection management; art conservation; art education and programming; arts administration and programming; arts education; arts journalism; digital humanities; multimedia work; museum or gallery work
Biology
Biology in the twenty-first century is among the most diverse and exciting of the sciences. Many of the challenges we face as a society, from environmental decline to the demand for new health therapies, involve biological solutions. As a Carleton Biology student in the BA, you will gain broad experience through core science courses and courses in the arts and social sciences that suit your individual interests and needs. The Department of Biology offers BA and Bachelor of Science degrees, and an interdisciplinary Bachelor of Humanities degree offered jointly with the College of the Humanities.

Career paths: bioethics; education; environmental consulting; field work in agriculture or wildlife management; intellectual property; science policy and regulation; medicine; natural resource management; research; science writing

Canadian Studies
The Canadian Studies program at Carleton tackles problems related to Canada that do not fit easily into disciplinary boundaries, including the relationship between settlers and the land they occupy, the trauma of colonialism and the process of reconciliation, the complexities of understanding and preserving heritage, tensions between urban and rural parts of the country, nation-branding, and the representation and performance of identity. These problems demand creative and innovative research methods and ways of thinking. The goal of our program is to help students develop the skills necessary to meet them.

In your fourth year, you will have the opportunity to take a practicum course that provides you with hands-on work experience. The four-year capstone seminar provides an opportunity to engage in academic research and publication. Both courses, in addition to other Canadian Studies and Indigenous Studies courses offered, take advantage of our location in Canada’s capital.

Career paths: journalism; law; museum and archival work; public service; teaching

Childhood and Youth Studies
Professionals working with children and youth face many challenges involving complex relationships with families, communities and governments. The newly redesigned Childhood and Youth Studies program at Carleton will provide a critical interdisciplinary educational experience to prepare you for a wide range of careers in this important and expanding sector.

Your coursework will introduce you to the complex contexts of childhood and adolescence throughout history, equip you with the analytic skills necessary to work effectively with children and youth, and inspire your commitment to the welfare of children and youth in Canada and across the world. The flexibility to pursue a minor in another discipline will also enable you to customize your program of study to your specific career interests.

Career paths: child advocacy; education services; health and social services; policy development; research in public and private agencies; senior administration

Criminology and Criminal Justice
Our students acquire a comprehensive, interdisciplinary understanding of crime, criminality and processes of criminalization and punishment. You will learn about penal justice, including practices of surveillance, prevention, policing, courts, sentencing and corrections. You will personalize your program by choosing one of three concentrations: Law, Psychology or Sociology. In addition, possible field placements in organizations such as the Crown Attorney’s Office, criminal law offices or the Royal Ottawa Hospital will give you hands-on experience in real-life situations, including front-line work with criminalized individuals, victims, police...
and lawyers. Other placements can match you with researchers and policy analysts involved in criminal justice and crime prevention. Carleton’s location in Ottawa gives you research and employment opportunities at the Department of Justice, the RCMP, the Correctional Service of Canada, Public Safety and the Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime.

**Career paths:** corrections, probation and parole; crime prevention analysis; government and policy; graduate work or professional studies; legal and social policy research; security and law enforcement; victim and support services

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**English**

As human beings, we understand ourselves and our world through the stories we tell. In the English department, we approach stories as tools for self-reflection and self-understanding, creative thinking and problem-solving. Our students learn to think deeply and write clearly in small, supportive and inclusive classes taught by award-winning professors. Our students are prepared for living in a complex world by studying the texts that anchor our diverse histories, from Beowulf to Bollywood, Jane Austen novels to comic books and Shakespearean plays to Indigenous drama.

Our highly successful co-op program enables students to combine academic study with valuable, paid work experience. Students have the opportunity to study abroad and register for a range of concentrations and minors in Creative Writing, Drama Studies and Professional Writing. Our department offers a wide range of courses taught by internationally recognized scholars. Studying in the nation’s capital, our co-op students frequently find employment with the federal government and in Ottawa’s high-tech sector. Our students enjoy access to prominent national institutions, including Library and Archives Canada, the National Gallery of Canada and the National Arts Centre. Ottawa’s vibrant literary community hosts many events, from prestigious national galas to coffeehouse writer circles. Our students can also attend many of the Ottawa International Writers Festival events for free.

**Career paths:** civil service; communications; creative writing; editing; human resources; law; library sciences; market research; non-profit sector; public relations; publishing; social media; teaching; technical and professional writing

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**Environmental Studies**

Explore environmental change, governance and policy in Canada and globally. Environmental Studies offers an interdisciplinary program of study focusing on the application of knowledge and hands-on learning to pressing environmental issues. Environmental Studies prepares students to be informed thinkers and problem-solvers dealing with the environmental challenges critical to our future. Through a combination of required courses and electives, students gain a solid foundation in environmental studies, while also being able to pursue specific areas of interest, such as resource conservation, environmental justice, urban sustainability or environmental policy. Environmental Studies also allows students to select from a diverse range of courses in anthropology, biology, earth sciences, economics, geography, geomatics, history, Indigenous studies, law and legal studies, philosophy, political science and sociology. Field courses, workplace practicums and experiential learning provide opportunities for students to gain valuable research skills and practical experience during the completion of the program.

**Career paths:** climate change organizer; conservation policy analysis; ecotourism; environmental assessment; environmental consulting; environmental planner; natural resources analysis

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**European and Russian Studies**

The Institute of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (EURUS) offers a comprehensive, interdisciplinary approach to the study of Europe, Russia and Eurasia. You will be able to build a program according to your specific interests, combining subjects such as history, politics, economics, language and culture. You will examine issues such as international security, nationalism and ethnic conflict, crime and corruption, the effects of globalization, migration and multiculturalism, environmental and social policy, democratization and civil society, collective memory and national identity, market reform, and European integration. In your third or fourth year, you may choose to take part in an academic exchange in a European country, in Russia and/or to pursue co-op employment. In addition to the core academic program, the Institute hosts a number of special lectures by high-profile experts, foreign visitors and embassy personnel throughout the year. An internship program is available to qualified fourth-year students.

**Career paths:** consulting; foreign and government service; law; media and business; non-governmental and international organizations; research

**Film Studies**

Investigate the cultural and artistic power of film and media. Contemporary life is profoundly shaped by audiovisual media, which makes training in analyzing film and other media directly relevant to a wide range of careers. This globally-focused and interdisciplinary program teaches critical, theoretical and historical approaches to cinema and emerging media. Students learn to think analytically and express themselves clearly, while developing specialized knowledge about history, aesthetics and film as a social and cultural practice. Take classes in film theory, the history of world cinema, genres like horror and sci-fi, the cinemas of Asia, Africa and Scandinavia, video games, gender and sexuality in media, film festivals, documentary, sound studies, and queer and transgender cinema. We also offer classes in audiovisual practice and screenwriting. Our program is student-friendly, with small class sizes and a commitment to mentorship. Students in their fourth year can get real-world experience at a local production company, film festival, museum or archive, such as the Canadian Film Institute.

“In the Canadian Studies program, I learned and frequently practiced academic skills such as reading, writing, and how to prepare and deliver an oral presentation. I appreciated that the courses were smaller as it allowed me to participate more frequently and get one-on-one help whenever needed. I made friends with my peers and professors right off the bat and remain close with them to this day.”

Hanna Stewart, student in Canadian Studies
Institute, SAW Video, Ottawa International Animation Festival, Inside Out Ottawa LGBT Film Festival and Digi60 Filmmakers’ Festival.

Career paths: archiving; festival programming; film criticism; filmmaking; production; screenwriting; video game design

French
Carleton’s Department of French is a great place to learn French and explore the linguistics, literatures and cultures of the francophone world. It is easy to integrate French into your studies, whether you wish to major in French or enrol in a single course. Our program spans beginner to advanced levels, helping students develop greater competency in listening, speaking, reading, writing and language interaction. You may engage academically with topics ranging from the status and features of French dialects worldwide, to emerging voices in Quebec literature, to writers from Africa and the Caribbean. Exchange opportunities and co-op work placements are available to students majoring in French.

Career paths: business; foreign and government service; public relations; publishing; teaching; tourism; translation and interpretation

Geography
Geography is about a lot more than just maps. Geographers seek to understand the complexity of the human-environment interactions that shape everyday lives, places, communities and global issues. Learn about and apply geography’s unique focus on different forms of spatial analysis to explore climate change, environmental degradation, globalization, urban inequality, spatial justice, colonialism or territorial conflicts. The BA in Geography offers a solid foundation in geographic knowledge and research skills, while also allowing for the in-depth examination of specific regions (such as Canada’s north or the global south) and topics (such as the geography of migration or local food systems). Field courses, work placements, experiential learning and hands-on training in tools like geographic information systems (GIS) provide opportunities for students to gain practical skills and experience while completing the program. Specialized concentrations in Physical Geography and Urban Geography are available. A Bachelor of Science in Physical Geography is also available.

Career paths: city and regional planning; environmental activism or education; conservation analysis; natural resources management; policy analysis

Geomatics
Geomatics deals with the acquisition, management, analysis and display of geographic information for societal and environmental problem solving. In our Geomatics BA program, you will obtain intensive training in geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing (imaging from satellites and aircraft) and cartography, including desktop, web-based and mobile applications. You will apply Geomatics tools and techniques to the challenge of understanding social and environmental systems, addressing complex problems and planning human interventions. Some examples of Geomatics application areas include urban planning and transportation analysis (infrastructure management, socio-economic mapping, business analysis and sustainability planning), ecosystem and environmental resource management (e.g. forestry, agriculture, water resources) and public health and security (e.g. hazard mapping, disease spread, crime analysis). Tools of the trade include specialized computer software (e.g. Google Earth, ESRI ArcGIS software, open source GIS and database management systems) and hardware (GIS workstations, GPS technology, camera systems, drones, smartphones and other mobile platforms). Our program combines hands-on learning using the latest in laboratory facilities

Students interested in learning about First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples will find many opportunities at Carleton. A significant number of our BA programs, from Art History to Political Science, offer courses or course content addressing Indigenous issues. Carleton also offers a Combined Honours program in Indigenous Studies. Ojigkwanong, Carleton’s Indigenous centre (pictured above with professor Kahente Horn-Miller), is open to the campus community to learn about and practice First Nations, Inuit and Métis cultures, traditions and worldview. Ojigkwanong, meaning “Morning Star” in Algonquin, is a hub for student activities throughout the year.
This program explores how our built environment reflects human needs and ideas throughout history. Students learn to ‘read’ buildings as dynamic documents that interact with all aspects of human life. As well as offering a rich variety of courses, the program organizes regular field trips, invites guest speakers from outside the university and creates study abroad opportunities in locations such as Venice, Rome and England. Our unique practicum program gives students academic credit for working in organizations like Parks Canada and the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada, or firms like GRC Architects.

It all adds up to an exciting education that opens many doors. History and Theory of Architecture is an excellent first step toward careers in heritage conservation, architectural criticism or architectural practice. It fosters intellectual skills that are invaluable in any profession in which critical thinking and communication skills are important. Our unique program also enables you to meet and learn with people who share your passion for architecture.

Career paths: academic research; architecture; governmental heritage management; heritage consulting/preservation; journalism and criticism; teaching

Human Rights and Social Justice
Carleton’s Human Rights and Social Justice program provides students with a critical examination of historical and contemporary human rights issues from an interdisciplinary perspective. The program is structured around five key thematic areas: 1) a critical analysis of the concepts and principles underlying human rights traditions; 2) a study of the laws and institutions that support and implement human rights frameworks; 3) an analysis of political repression from a human rights perspective; 4) an examination of social marginalization and the role of human rights in the protection of marginalized groups; and 5) an exploration of the relationship between human rights and social justice. Our location in Ottawa will give you access to local, national and international organizations that deal with the promotion of human rights and the elimination of human rights abuses. The city and the university also play host to national and international visitors who offer insights into human rights activism.

Career paths: advocacy work; government service; international relations; law; non-governmental organizations

Indigenous Studies
We live in an era of decolonization and reconciliation, in which Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples must grapple with the haunting legacies of racism and cultural violence, and find ways to move forward. The interdisciplinary Indigenous Studies program seeks to aid this effort by providing both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students with an in-depth understanding of the historical and contemporary experiences of Indigenous peoples in North America and the world.

Career paths: academic research; archaeology; archival research; business; law; museology; public service; teaching and academia
Following the Mamiwininnmowin (Algonquin language) concept of aditawazi nisoditadiwin, or walking in two worlds, this program blends traditional academic instruction with Indigenous approaches to teaching. Coursework in the program covers four main thematic areas: Indigenous peoplehood studies; Indigenous ways of knowing and epistemologies; the history of Indigenous-Settler relations and colonization; and Indigenous recovery, vitalization, and reclamation and decolonization. In their fourth year, students will have the option of working with elders or a community organization on a capstone project.

**Career paths:** journalism; law; museum and archival work; public service; teaching

**Law**

The Department of Law and Legal Studies at Carleton is home to the oldest and largest BA program in law in Canada. In the program, you will acquire a strong understanding of the dynamics and operation of law in the context of social, economic, cultural and political structures. You will study the rules, agents, institutions and power relationships that underlie the law, while developing skills in legal research, interdisciplinary methodologies and theoretical analysis. You will be taught by award-winning professors and extensively published researchers. Carleton’s proximity to national public institutions and NGOs, such as the Supreme Court of Canada, Parliament, UNHCR and the Consumer’s Association of Canada, provide unique work and volunteer opportunities for our students. Honours students have the choice of a concentration in Business Law; Law, Policy and Government; or Transnational Law and Human Rights. Co-op options are available for qualified students in Business Law and in Law, Policy and Government. Students can also enrol in a service-learning placement course and receive course credit while obtaining real world experience working with a company, organization or community group on legally-related issues. Qualified students have the option to study abroad in exchange programs around the world.

**Career paths:** advocacy; banking and investment; business management; criminal justice; education; law and legal practice; legal administration; legal research; policing and law enforcement; policy analysis; public relations; public service; social policy

**Linguistics**

Linguistics is the scientific study of one of the most fundamental aspects of being human: using language to communicate. Linguists explore a range of fascinating ideas including what it means to know a language; how we process and produce language; language structure; how children acquire language; variation and diversity in languages across the globe; language disorders and delays; and how languages change over time.

At Carleton, students learn to study linguistics from a dedicated faculty with a diverse set of research interests, including theoretical and experimental approaches and methods. Students can choose from two concentrations to tailor their degree to their interests: Linguistic Theory or Psycholinguistics and Communication Disorders. Qualified students in the Psycholinguistics and Communication Disorders concentration have the opportunity to take a practicum course that provides clinical experience in speech-language pathology.

A Bachelor of Science in Linguistics is also available.

**Career paths:** artificial intelligence; branding and advertising; forensic linguistics; language documentation; language processing; language revitalization; speech-language pathology; translation and interpretation

**Music**

Our Bachelor of Arts (Honours or Combined Honours) program in Music focuses on music as a historical and social phenomenon. Carleton BA Music students also have the option to study composition, music theory, community music, computer music, Indigenous studies, gender studies, improvisation and disability studies. In our program, you will be able to study a wide
variety of musical styles and traditions, including Western classical music, Canadian music, musics of the world, jazz and popular music.

BA Music students form a close-knit community and receive personalized attention from highly qualified faculty who are internationally distinguished and recognized for their achievements in teaching and research. There is no audition or performance requirement for this degree. For students interested in pursuing performance, a Bachelor of Music is also available.

The Combined BA (Honours) in Music allows a student to combine music with a major or minor in another academic subject.

Career paths: arts management and administration; civil service; composition; entertainment industry; law; library and archival work; music criticism; musicology; performance; radio and television work; teaching music in private and public environments

Philosophy
The study of philosophy prepares you to engage meaningfully in whatever profession you choose, because it develops your ability to assess ideas, think clearly and creatively, and appreciate multiple perspectives on matters of deepest importance. By studying philosophy in one of our programs, you will have the opportunity to develop these abilities in a wide range of exciting courses from faculty members who are as passionate about their teaching as they are about their internationally recognized research. You will also be following in the footsteps of a number of notable public figures who have studied philosophy at Carleton. Graduates often pursue academic careers after completing advanced study, or pursue rewarding careers in law and government, policy analysis, ethics in health care and other fields, and social advocacy with non-governmental organizations.

Career paths: advocacy; cognitive science; ethics (medical, business, government and leadership in administration); law; social policy analysis; teaching

Political Science
Where better to study politics than in Ottawa, the nation’s capital? Our program offers many opportunities to learn from and work with experts and experienced practitioners in the real world of Canadian and international politics, as well as a diverse faculty of internationally renowned scholars. You will explore new ideas and complex issues such as international conflict and cooperation; citizenship, migration, and identity; and the contemporary challenges of democratic governance. You can choose to focus on the following areas of study: Canadian Politics; Comparative Politics and Area Studies (Global North); Comparative Politics and Area Studies (Global South); Gender and Politics; International Relations; North American Politics; Political Theory; and Public Affairs and Policy Analysis.

In upper years, international or local internships and exchanges are exciting possibilities, as are co-op placements.

Career paths: foreign service; government; lobbying and consulting; non-profit sector; politics; polling and research

Psychology
Psychologists study the mechanisms that underlie our thoughts, emotions and behaviours. They examine a diverse range of topics, such as how we think and learn, how we interact with others, and how we can promote healthy development and wellness. This is accomplished by conducting research so that the knowledge gained can help us to better understand the human mind, enhance well-being and performance, and generate additional research questions.

All of our programs provide opportunities to explore psychology’s major areas within the context of an active and diverse research environment. For students wishing to focus on one of these major areas, we offer concentrations in Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Forensic Psychology, Health Psychology, Organizational Psychology and Social/Personality Psychology. As well, we offer a stream in Mental Health and Well-Being. We also offer a minor in Human Resources Management.

The insights you gain from studying psychology will serve you throughout your life, in virtually any career. Psychology is also offered as a Bachelor of Science.

“As a Law and Legal Studies student, not only were my courses taught by actual lawyers and distinguished academics, but I was also able to apply what I learned in classes during an extended internship at a downtown law firm. The staff in the Department of Law and Legal Studies supported me in this endeavor by working with me to customize course criteria, which allowed me to receive course credit for my contributions to cases. Beyond just academics, the Law and Legal Studies program provided me with the opportunity to partake in an international exchange experience where I travelled to and studied in Melbourne, Australia.”

Derek Mastin, student in Law and Legal Studies
Religion
In this program, students will analyze responses to questions about identity, history and the basis of political and ethical commitments that have been posed by the world's major religions. The study of religion nurtures in students a respect for the complex identities of others, their histories and cultures. You can study the history and literature of Christianity, Islam and Judaism; examine Asian religions such as Buddhism and Hinduism; follow the rise and fall of religious leaders and movements; or explore common themes in a variety of religious traditions, such as the environment, the role of women or the afterlife. A degree in Religion will equip you for many career opportunities in our increasingly multicultural world, where religious beliefs play a significant role in human affairs and continue to affect local and global events. Minors in Christian Studies, Islamic Studies and Jewish Studies are also available.

Sociology
How are new technologies changing the ways we interact with each other and live our lives? Why are so many jobs becoming short term, and how is this situation affecting families, communities and self-identities? Why do social problems like poverty, racism, sexism, homophobia and ageism persist in the modern world? What can we do to address these problems?

Sociology is the systematic study of human society. We connect the personal to bigger forces in society. Sociology explores how families, economic inequalities, sexuality, gender, race, the law and the state shape individuals, and how individuals shape these social institutions and structures. Sociology sheds light on the social processes shaping lives, problems and possibilities in contemporary society. We train you to do hands-on research on topics you care about, and we offer a co-op option.

Our one-of-a-kind stream in Social Justice gives you first-hand experience learning from community leaders and partnering with community-based organizations to do research, work on campaigns, public events and documentary films.

Career paths: business and professional work; community service work or non-profit sector; government service; policy analysis and development; research

Women’s and Gender Studies
Carleton’s Pauline Jewett Institute of Women’s and Gender Studies offers programs that engage students in critical understandings of feminist scholarship, LGBTQ2S+ studies and disability studies across different historical, socio-economic, cultural and political contexts. Central to our programs is the consideration of how gender intersects with race, class, ethnicity, age, ability and sexuality within a globalized world and transnational environments. Students can study gender issues in courses that cross disciplines and contribute to activist projects, and they have the unique opportunity to participate in a practicum placement with feminist groups, organizations and agencies from inside and outside the Carleton community.

The institute of Women’s and Gender Studies also offers minors in Disability Studies and Sexuality Studies.

Career paths: community service; community-based agencies; counselling; education; government; law; media; social policy research

Career paths: archival and museum work; business; counselling/conflict resolution; education; foreign service; intercultural communication; international development; law; library services; mediation and peace initiatives; non-governmental organizations; politics; publishing and editing; social work; correctional services

Career paths: corrections; early childhood education; health and social services; human resource management; marketing and public relations; mental health services; parole counselling; probation; research

“Choosing to study Psychology at Carleton was the best decision I ever made and a truly invaluable experience. With its variety of concentrations, special topics seminars, peer mentorship program and hands-on learning experiences with community practicums and co-op options, the BA Psych. is a one-of-a-kind program. Not to mention the phenomenal faculty and staff, research opportunities and great selection of student support services that make for an unparalleled post-secondary journey.”

Chelsea Medland, student in Psychology (BA) with a concentration in Health Psychology
The BA advantage

Carleton’s Bachelor of Arts (BA) provides students with opportunities to gain transferable skills and work experience, participate in extracurricular and global opportunities, and prepare for the countless career opportunities that await BA graduates.

Gain practical work experience
Most BA programs offer work experience through co-operative education or through a practicum, internship or placement. These opportunities allow you to apply your skills in real, on-the-job scenarios, and to graduate with practical work experience and connections to professionals.

Build transferable skills
Transferable skills allow you to succeed in a job market that is rapidly evolving and needs graduates who are able to adapt and apply their skills to many circumstances. The skills you gain will vary based on your area of study, but all Carleton BA graduates will gain skills in:

- communicating effectively across a variety of mediums;
- thinking critically about local, national and international concerns;
- analyzing, researching and interpreting information;
- building and articulating clear, concise arguments; and
- working independently and in teams.

Shape your future
Carleton’s Career Services offers career guidance starting in first year, so you can plan for your future while you build skills and gain experiences. This combination of skills, work experience, extracurricular involvement and career planning allows BA students to take important first steps toward achieving a rewarding career. Our BA graduates are working in a variety of careers, in fields as diverse as:

- archival and museum work
- arts administration
- communications and marketing
- community development
- entertainment
- health and well-being
- human resource management
- law and policy analysis
- public service
- teaching
- writing, editing and publishing

Get involved
Extracurricular involvement helps you realize your interests and capabilities, build relationships and expand your perspective. Students can join a club or society, participate in local or international community service-learning, study abroad and more. Participating in these activities will shape how you understand yourself, and how you understand the people and world around you.

Through the co-op program, Sociology student Angela Ingrao completed an eight-month work term at the Royal Canadian Mint. Angela’s job involved pulling reports, analyzing and verifying data, updating training records and helping with administrative tasks.

Hannah Consitt, a Criminology and Criminal Justice student, studied abroad in the United Kingdom during third year.