

Arts and Social Sciences

GUIDEBOOK



Ottawa, Canada
carleton.ca/fass

Carleton
University





Place your program brochures here

African Studies

Anthropology

Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies

Art History

Biology

Childhood and Youth Studies

Cognitive Science

English

Environmental and Climate Change Studies

Film Studies

French

Geography

Geomatics

Global and International Studies

Greek and Roman Studies

History

History and Theory of Architecture

Human Rights and Social Justice

Humanities

Indigenous Studies

Linguistics

Music

Philosophy

Psychology

Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences

Religion

Sociology

Women's and Gender Studies

General Studies

Undeclared

Recognizing the value of nature and community connection for personal well-being, Carleton's campus offers many outdoor gathering spaces. On sunny days, you'll find Arts and Social Sciences students at picnic tables outside the library or walking alongside the Rideau Canal and Rideau River. Illustration of Carleton's academic quad by Colin White.



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Algonquin Territory Acknowledgment

Carleton University acknowledges the location of its campus on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin Anishinàbeg nation. In doing so, Carleton acknowledges it has a responsibility to the Algonquin people and a responsibility to adhere to Algonquin cultural protocols.



Welcome to a community that makes a difference

Begin your transformative academic journey with Carleton University's dynamic Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, where you can study what matters most to you.

Offering over 30 undergraduate programs and the opportunity to explore a diverse range of subjects — no matter your major — our Faculty fosters a collaborative environment of impactful interdisciplinary research and devoted teaching, preparing you for an exceptional future.

The **Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences student guidebook** that you hold in your hands serves as a companion document to the Carleton University viewbook and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences program brochures.

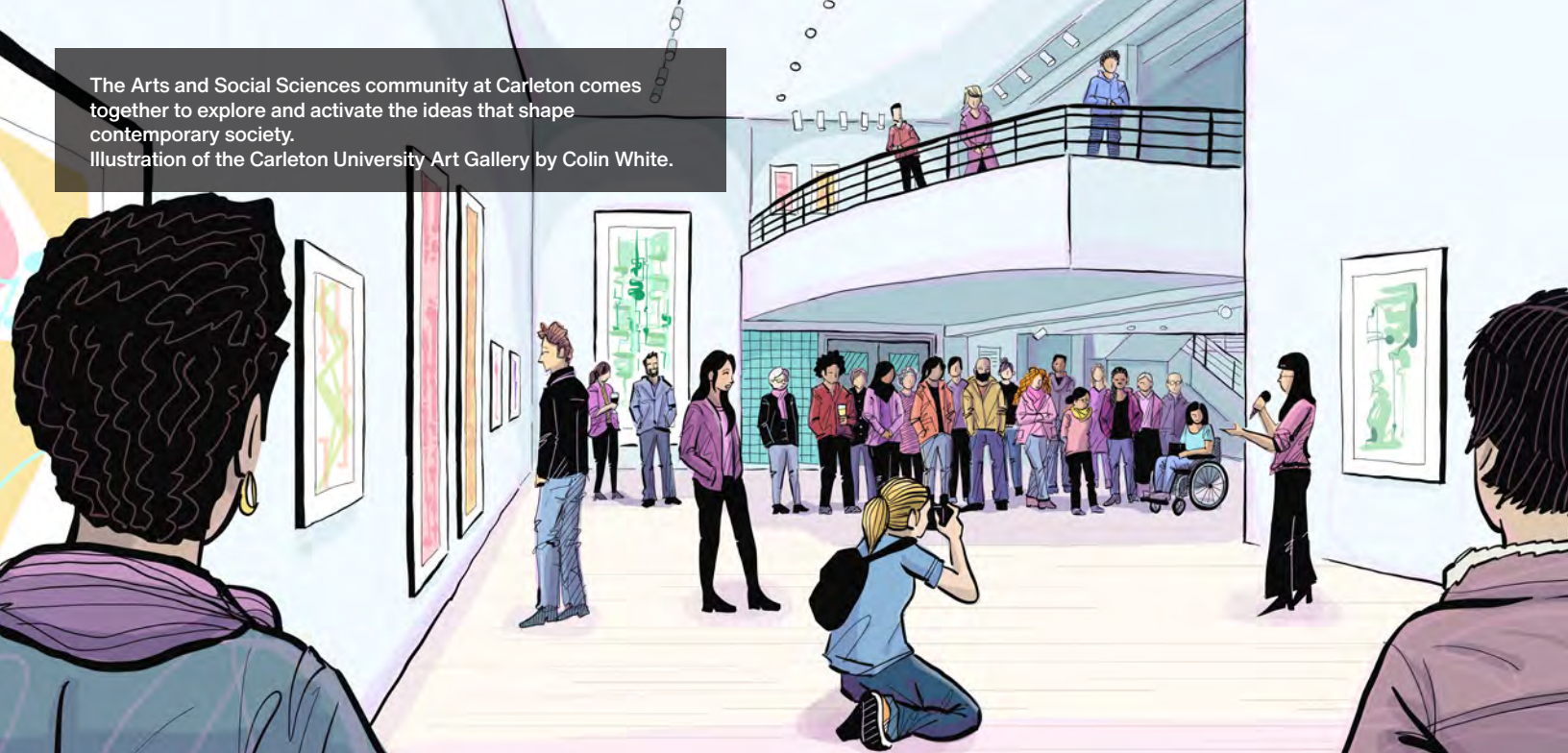
If you are interested in a particular area or areas of study, please pick up a program brochure. You can place multiple brochures in the convenient inside cover pocket of your guidebook, or visit the Admissions website. admissions.carleton.ca

Your guidebook will detail what makes the student experience in our faculty truly extraordinary. Discover how the Arts and Social Sciences at Carleton University empowers you.

- Explore innovative solutions for contemporary issues like decolonization, social justice, mental health and sustainability, while discovering the transformative power of creative expression.
- Tailor your academic journey to your interests, equipping you to build the future you want for yourself.
- Take part in exceptional experiential learning opportunities that ignite curiosity and unlock your full potential.
- Cultivate meaningful connections with professors, peers and accomplished alumni, building a network that positions you for success throughout your degree and beyond.
- Immerse yourself in the culturally rich and thriving employment hub of the National Capital Region, home to government institutions, national museums and galleries, celebrated art festivals, countless NGOs, a thriving tech sector and so much more.

In the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, we understand that university is about asking big questions, expanding your knowledge, listening and learning from different voices, advocating for positive change and preparing you for the extraordinary future you want. Your journey begins here. Welcome to the Arts and Social Sciences at Carleton University.

The Arts and Social Sciences community at Carleton comes together to explore and activate the ideas that shape contemporary society.
Illustration of the Carleton University Art Gallery by Colin White.



At a glance



5995

undergraduate students
in 2025-26



1 in 7

students are from
out of province

1 in 6

students are from the
GTA & Southwestern ON



390

international students



330+

faculty and instructors



33

undergraduate programs



119

first-year courses
in 2025-26



15

programs available with
co-op options

21

programs with practicum
opportunities



70K+

alumni worldwide

Carleton University Film Studies students standing outside the Mayfair Theatre, only a short distance from campus.



The Ottawa advantage

Carleton University is located in the heart of the nation's capital, which offers students unparalleled opportunities throughout their degree and into their future.

Ottawa is a dynamic place to learn, network and nurture your professional growth. It's home to most federal government departments, prominent non-governmental organizations (NGOs), embassies, a thriving tech sector, world-class research centres and libraries. Students in the Arts and Social Sciences have access to diverse co-op, practicum and job opportunities that span dozens of industries and sectors.

Studying in Ottawa means you'll have the opportunity to catch a screening at the Mayfair (one of the oldest surviving movie houses in all of Canada), take in a performance at the Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre or visit one of the largest art collections in North America at the National Gallery of Canada. Ottawa is culturally vibrant; its national museums, galleries, community events, indie venues and festivals offer endless unique experiences that spark creativity.

The city is also one of the most picturesque capitals in the world, with lush public parks, stunning architectural landmarks, the Ottawa and Rideau rivers flowing with activity and the historic Rideau Canal (a UNESCO World Heritage Site).

If you are considering making Ottawa home for your undergraduate studies, rest assured that there is something here for everyone, no matter your interests. Capitalize on life in the nation's capital!





History Professor Marc Saurette and first-year students explore the medieval world through games in a hands-on First-Year Seminar (FYSM) called Gaming the Middle Ages.

First-Year Seminars

As a Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences student at Carleton, you'll have the opportunity to participate in a First-Year Seminar (FYSM), designed to provide you with additional supports while exploring captivating topics in out-of-the-box ways. These seminars set the stage for a unique and enriching university experience.

Carleton's FYSMs are capped at 30 students, allowing you to forge close-knit bonds with your classmates and receive personalized attention from professors. FYSMs help build essential skills like essay writing, critical thinking, problem-solving and media literacy. They also enhance your communication skills through teamwork, presentations and vibrant discussions.

Examples of past FYSM courses

Indigenous Reclamation and Resurgence

A seminar emphasizing the reclamation of Indigenous philosophical, cultural, artistic and spiritual traditions. Indigenous resurgence is examined through the integration of ways of being rooted in pre-colonial worldviews.

Psychology and Criminal Justice

Delve into theories, research and practical applications of psychology to the criminal justice system. Topics include eyewitness testimony, prediction of violence, classification and rehabilitation of offenders, victim studies and judicial decision-making.

Social Justice and the City

This seminar explores struggles over social and economic inequality in the city, and their relationship to processes of urbanization and global change. Theories and case studies explaining how urban lives and city spaces are shaped by social movements and urban politics are also examined.

Understanding Environmental Discourse

An examination of how language and other symbol systems are used to portray and make arguments about ecology and the global environment, with a particular focus on climate change.

"In the first couple weeks of the course, Gaming the Middle Ages, we learned about how surprisingly diverse medieval society was and the misconceptions that we have of it now. From there, we embarked on a role-playing game set in the Middle Ages. We learned that while games can be purely for entertainment value, they can also be used to portray information in an engaging way. Throughout the game, my classmates and I heavily relied on one another for negotiations, debates and alliances. It helped me grow closer to some of my friends in the class and offered an opportunity to engage with other students I didn't know as well."

Trinity C., History



Each year, the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies runs a fall field course. Students venture out on a four-day field work trip to collect data and reflect on various field work methods. They gain invaluable skills, like how to compile, process and analyze field data.

Experiential learning outside the classroom

All programs in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences offer students opportunities for hands-on, experiential learning. Whether through one of our programs with a co-op option, a practicum placement, a field course, community partnerships, an in-class experiential opportunity or travel abroad, students can develop employability skills, explore career paths, network and gain real-world experience.

Places where our students have completed co-op terms

- 42 federal government departments and agencies (e.g. Health Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Library and Archives Canada, Correctional Service Canada)
- 9 crown corporations (e.g. CBC/Radio-Canada, national museums, Royal Canadian Mint)
- 14 technology and telecommunications companies (e.g. Ericsson, Nokia, Ross Video, Pythian Group)



“Working with the Youth Secretariat in the Department of Canadian Heritage has allowed me to constructively engage with the public service world. I have been introduced to the complex systems and structures which guide the creation and administration of policy. I am proud to have contributed to a large research project which has given voice to over a thousand youth across Canada.”

Victoria B., Sociology, co-op with the Department of Canadian Heritage

Having previously worked at the National Gallery of Canada as an interpreter, Taylor saw another side of the gallery through her practicum with Christopher Etheridge, Associate Curator of European and American Art. Taylor helped rearrange a file on Impressionist painter Alfred Sisley. Full of images, exhibition catalogues and writings about the artist's work, these files also included private documents that the public never gets to view, such as personal correspondence. In her practicum at the Canada Council Art Bank, Taylor was the curator of a travelling art exhibition in partnership with the Manitoba Art Network. Taylor says she got to see the professional, behind-the-scenes part of art curation, which gave her an important chance to decide if the field would be right for her someday.

Taylor S., Art History and Humanities, practicums with the National Gallery of Canada and Canada Council Art Bank



"During my experience as a CHEO Instructor Therapist, I've worked closely with autistic children in one-on-one therapy sessions, focusing on crucial developmental goals. Witnessing their progress and growth has been immensely rewarding. I also worked on a program that offered hands-on experience working with families in their homes, collaborating closely with parents. These experiences have equipped me with a comprehensive toolkit to address the diverse needs of autistic individuals and align seamlessly with my academic foundation, giving me a well-rounded understanding of evidence-based practices and their real-world applications."

Zainah A., Psychology, co-op with the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO)



"Co-op has given me the opportunity to meet incredible people, refine my communication, interpersonal and research skills and explore unexpected career paths. I have helped organize, edit, write and publish a business association's annual magazine, worked in event planning and coordination, researched World War II veterans and more."

Ayla S., English, co-op with Hub350 (Kanata North) and Library and Archives Canada



Travel abroad opportunities

Institute of African Studies

Study Abroad Course

In Spring 2023, 12 students embarked on a trip to Ghana with Instructor Kathy Armstrong, a specialist in West African drumming (pictured above). The course enabled students to experience drumming, dancing, singing and community life in Dagbemetee, an Ewe village in the Volta Region of Ghana. Students also went to live music concerts in Accra, lectures on urban styles of music at the University of Ghana, Legon, and created soundscape recordings to consider how sonic landscapes connect to deeper cultural, social and economic themes. The course is offered annually, with shifting topics and locations.

Art and Architectural History

Study Abroad Course

In Spring 2023, a group of 17 Carleton students took part in an Art and Architectural History study abroad course in Rome, Italy. The students lived in apartments in the city and explored the history and symbolism of Rome through its rich visual culture and built environment. With classes taking place in museums and historical sites, the academic lessons became unforgettable immersive experiences for all the students.

Greek and Roman Studies

Study Abroad Course

Open to students with one (1.0) academic credit in Greek and Roman Studies, this course offers a firsthand examination of museum collections and sites of the ancient world, often in the Mediterranean but sometimes further afield in Europe. Course content varies from year to year. The photo on the right features students exploring the Temple of Aphaia on the island of Aegina in Greece.



Signature spaces



Carleton University Art Gallery (CUAG) is located on the north side of campus and houses the University's art collection and exciting exhibitions throughout the year. CUAG fosters inclusive opportunities for art-based learning, and mentors emerging cultural workers. Tours, workshops, arts and crafts nights, guest talks and collaborative assignments are just some of the ways Carleton students can engage with the Gallery. (Pictured: Danielle Printup and Professor Carmen Robertson, co-curators of the exhibition *Norval Morrisseau: Medicine Currents*, seated in front of Morrisseau's work at CUAG in 2023.) cuag.ca



The Kailash Mital Theatre is Carleton University's 444-seat performance theatre on campus. The theatre is professionally equipped for dramatic productions (like productions from Sock 'n' Buskin, Carleton's theatre company) as well as concerts put on by Carleton's Music program, and offers a cinema-style screening experience for Carleton's Introduction to Film Studies course (pictured). carleton.ca/km-theatre

Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre (CDCC)

is the University's arts, performance and learning centre located in downtown Ottawa. Within the glorious sandstone walls of the distinguished heritage building lies an exquisite main hall (pictured) with fantastic acoustics, a grand stage and capacity for 855 audience members. In addition to its diverse range of programming for the community at large, Carleton students in the Arts and Social Sciences can take courses offered at the CDCC, like "Experiencing Architecture," workshops in Drama Studies, and Music ensembles. carleton.ca/cdcc





The Advanced Cognitive Engineering Laboratory (ACE Lab), under the direction of Cognitive Science and Psychology Professor Chris Herdman, aims to discover fundamental principles of human perception and cognition and to apply these principles to the design, implementation and evaluation of advanced human-machine systems, like semi-autonomous vehicles. Herdman's team (which includes undergraduate-level researchers) uses driving and flight simulators and other virtual reality systems to study cognitive health and safety. carleton.ca/ace

Student research opportunities

Recognizing the impact of research, the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences helps facilitate a range of learning opportunities for students. Whether it's exploring new frontiers through the Carleton University Research Opportunity Program (CUROP), shaping Carleton's academic landscape with the Students as Partners Program (SaPP) or charting their own path with a fourth year independent research project, Arts and Social Sciences students aren't just learners — they are contributors to knowledge and innovation at Carleton and beyond.

I-CUREUS

The Internship-Carleton University Research Experience for Undergraduate Students, or I-CUREUS, is an internship that involves an undergraduate student in a research project. Students seek I-CUREUS opportunities to gain experience leading a project or an aspect of a project, to better understand data analysis, to contribute to ongoing work in their field, to build research skills in their discipline, to learn more about a subject or topic, to drive research forward, build their resume, or for part-time employment.

SaPP

The Students as Partners Program (SaPP) provides funding for undergraduate students to partner with faculty, instructors, librarians and teaching support staff on course design projects. Working directly with students helps to support the implementation of innovative and exciting teaching practices, but most importantly it helps foster student-centred teaching and course design. A

SaPP project can not only transform a course, it can transform a student's perspective of academia and can be a valuable mentorship experience for both the primary course designer and student partner.

CUROP

As part of the Carleton University Research Opportunity Program (CUROP), the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences offers summer research internships to undergraduate students. These internships provide students with a funded opportunity to develop an original research project under the supervision of a faculty member during the summer semester.

Fourth year research projects

Students opting to complete an Honours Research Project or Directed Study in their fourth year have the opportunity to deeply engage with the subject of their choice under the guidance of a faculty member.



"The Carleton University Research Opportunity Program (CUROP) is one of the best opportunities I've ever had. I was able to pursue my own academic research on the relationship between colonialism and cultural heritage in my family's home country of Malta, under the supervision of an amazing historian, Professor Susan Whitney. I used some of the funding to spend the summer in Malta so I could visit archives and libraries there. It was a great chance to learn more about academic research, which helped to prepare me for graduate school. As a first-generation student, this opportunity has continued to benefit me and I would absolutely encourage all research-oriented undergraduate students to give it a shot."

Nigel K.-P., History



"As a student learning online during the pandemic, I noticed how challenging it could be to learn new words, understand their meanings and incorporate them into my vocabulary. Through the Carleton University Research Opportunity Program (CUROP), I investigated these issues systemically by looking at the effects of different amounts of interaction on the ease and accuracy of word learning. Through my research project, I learned about the types of research questions and experimental methods used in linguistics, which helped me refine my research question and sharpen my skills for my honours thesis."

Nikki E., Cognitive Science, project in Linguistics



Through the Students as Partners Program, Angela, along with Ingenium's Curator of Communication Technologies Tom Everett and Professor James Opp, co-designed a course about the material history of the 1980s, which included a visit to Ingenium's collection storage facility to get up close with some signature objects that defined a generation.

Angela M., History

Riveting research labs

There are research labs across the Arts and Social Sciences that accept undergraduate student participation. Collaborating with graduate-level researchers and faculty members in these labs can lead to co-authorship on research papers, growing your professional network and exploring pathways to graduate school.



"I'm an undergraduate research assistant in the Adaptive Neuromorphics, Intelligence, Memory, and Unified Systems (ANIMUS) lab conducting research on the topic of moral decision-making in AI agents, how the decisions made by these systems can be improved through attention to ethical and safety considerations, and highlighting the potential problems that serve as a threat in existing models. My fellow lab members, including principal investigator Professor Mary Kelly, have helped me at every stage of my research on ethical AI and the nature of intelligent beings."

Taran A.-M., Cognitive Science



"The enthusiasm and guidance of the professors have allowed me to contribute to exciting research projects evaluating the effectiveness of ground-penetrating radar for monitoring snow-depth in Iqaluit, Nunavut, and applying remote-sensing techniques to identify acid rock drainage in Mayo, Yukon Territory. These research experiences built upon the skills and knowledge taught in the classroom and provided fantastic opportunities to apply them in the field. It's been a highlight of my studies and has created lasting memories for which I am grateful."

Ben S., Geomatics



"My honours thesis, supervised by Professor Maria Rogers, explored the learning behaviours of children with and without ADHD during the COVID-19 pandemic. I joined Dr. Rogers's Child Mental Health Lab in my fourth year and then took on the role of laboratory manager. I coordinate events and support Dr. Rogers's research through data collection, analysis and knowledge mobilization. I love being part of a team dedicated to understanding and improving mental health and educational outcomes for children."

Zara H., Psychology

Clubs and societies

Find your home away from home and peers who share your passion through one of Carleton's many clubs and societies. Some clubs are linked to degree programs, while others are based on interests and hobbies. Below is a selection of clubs and societies ready to welcome you!



Psychology Society of Carleton University (PSCU): "The Society's primary goal is to provide a sense of community for undergraduate students at Carleton. Whether Psychology is your major or minor, or you just have a general interest in the field, PSCU has something for everyone! PSCU hosts a variety of events throughout the year such as Meet the Profs Night, Movie Nights and Fundraisers."

Katelyn M., 2023-24 PSCU President



Carleton University Human Rights Society (CUHRS): "The Society is a passionate club dedicated to advancing human rights through a multi-faceted approach. Our mission encompasses education, poverty alleviation, global justice, student support and community engagement. Through impactful events such as workshops, campaigns and fundraisers, CUHRS fosters awareness and action on human rights issues, making a tangible difference locally and globally. The Society's commitment to supporting students and actively engaging with the community highlights its significance as a catalyst for positive change and a hub for passionate advocates at Carleton."

Kathryn J.Y., 2023-24 CUHRS Co-President



Carleton Applied and Theoretical Linguistics Society (CATL): "The goal of our society is to foster community among students in Linguistics, Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies, Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences, Modern Languages, and the Certificate in the Teaching of English as a Second Language programs, as well as those with a personal interest in languages. CATL provides resources to support academics and graduate school admissions, and connects students with faculty and each other. CATL organizes study sessions, networking socials and lectures from professionals. Some of our recent highlights include painting a mural in the tunnels and making merchandise of our club emblem!"

Holly Z., 2024-25 CATL President

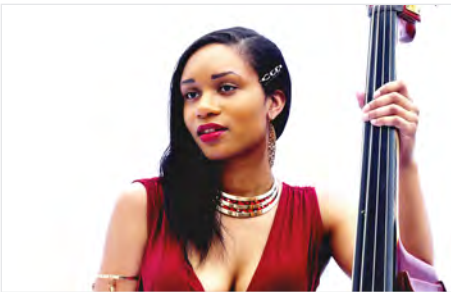
Great grads, bright futures

The versatility of an education in the Arts and Social Sciences opens doors to countless possibilities. Our graduates have embarked on paths as varied as the subjects they studied. From the operating room to the courtroom, a degree in the Arts and Social Sciences is a compass guiding our alumni through their career endeavours.



**Kika Otono, Doctor of Medicine, Resident Physician,
Bachelor of Humanities and Biology, 2020**

"It remains quite rare to find surgeons with as robust of a liberal arts education as I received in Humanities. The hours I spent synthesizing complex philosophical ideas from the Great Books program provide me with a unique perspective and enriches my work as a physician. In urologic surgery in particular, we take care of patients facing life-altering diagnoses and intimate issues. I chose the field for this reason, and I appreciate every day how much my undergraduate studies prepared me to tackle difficult conversations, adapt to new situations, communicate clearly with my patients and colleagues, and think critically."



**Angelique Francis, 2023 Juno Award-winning musician,
Bachelor of Music, 2019**

"Carleton has such a wonderful music community. From the students, to the alumni and the professors, they are often the ones that you end up playing with around town. The singer-songwriter stream is unique in Canada, and it allows you to study multiple genres and multiple instruments. I could craft a learning path to fit my professional goals, and there was something for everyone in every discipline."



**Jill Lewis, Lawyer, Co-Founder of Resolutions at Work,
Bachelor of Arts, Women's and Gender Studies, 2012**

"Carleton University provided a supportive environment for me to explore innovative concepts within the social sciences. My major in Women's and Gender Studies and courses in Law positioned me well to pursue law school, where I continued to develop my understanding of how the law can drive societal change. After nearly a decade of practicing employment law, I have established my own workplace investigation and mediation business. The skills honed at Carleton continue to be a consistent resource, enabling me to critically assess my own thoughts, biases and assumptions."



**Luke Lebrun, Editor of Press Progress,
Bachelor of Arts, English, 2008**

"At a time when the technology we use is changing in profound and dramatic ways, the value of studying English has never been more important. Studying English taught me how to think critically about language and synthesize new information. Whether you end up becoming an investigative journalist or choose a different career path, these skills build a strong foundation to help navigate a rapidly changing information landscape."



**Roy Shen, GIS System Analyst,
Bachelor of Arts, Geomatics, 2017**

"The Geomatics program at Carleton equipped me with a solid foundation in geographical information systems (GIS) and offered practical opportunities to simulate real-world projects. The skills I gained in cartography, ESRI software and Python scripting are crucial in my current role as a GIS System Analyst at the City of Vancouver."



Carleton's many creative spaces offer endless opportunities for collaboration, exploration and reflection.
Illustration of the Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre by Colin White.

Program overviews

African Studies (BA)

*offers practicum

The African Studies program at Carleton offers an interdisciplinary degree that brings together a wide range of expertise on African history, politics, literature, media and culture. Courses provide experiential learning opportunities both locally and internationally that are tailored to students' interests. The program offers a unique academic hub with a remarkable collection of African Studies scholars tackling the complex social, cultural and political issues of our time.

Anthropology (BA)

*offers co-op option and practicum

Anthropology is the study of human beings in all their cultural, geographical and historical diversity. Students investigate how people confront global issues such as migration, climate change and the rise of new media technologies through their own complex understandings of kinship, age, race, gender, class, faith, nature and nation. Moreover, Anthropology provides valuable insights into emerging technologies' ethical and social implications.

Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies (BA)

Carleton offers a distinctive approach to language studies by merging Applied Linguistics, focusing on language as both a communication system and a social tool, with Discourse Studies, which examines written, spoken and visual communication across various contexts. This combination enables students to explore language education, assessment, societal impact and the multifaceted functions of writing.

Art History (BA)

*offers practicum

The Art History program at Carleton is invested in interdisciplinarity and a critical global perspective. The program's wide-ranging course offerings span Canadian, Chinese, European, Indigenous, Islamic, Japanese and North American pre-modern, modern and contemporary art. Art History students gain insight and experience in the professional world, as the National Capital Region offers many exciting placements in art and cultural institutions.

Biology (BA)

Through Carleton's Biology program, students explore solutions to the many challenges we face as a society, from environmental decline to the demand for new health therapies. The program can lead to a variety of careers in fields such as bioinformatics, horticulture or wildlife management, natural resource management, education and higher education, research and consulting, health care and science journalism. The BA program is separate from the BSc program offered through the Faculty of Science.

Childhood and Youth Studies (BA)

*offers practicum

With a pioneering approach that centres children's voices and experiences, Carleton's Childhood and Youth Studies program distinguishes itself from traditional psychological and educational research focused "on" children by elevating young people's agency, voice and participation to the forefront. The program unravels the intricate connection between childhood, youth, culture, child welfare, individual rights of children, and the economic, social and political factors shaping young people's lives.



"I've greatly enjoyed my double major in History and Greek and Roman Studies. It's allowed me to spend time exploring different time periods and ways of thinking about the past that have, ultimately, enabled me to find my passion. The opportunity to learn new languages and new styles of writing has also given me a wide range of skills I can use going forward in my academic career."

Kegan R., History and Greek and Roman Studies

Cognitive Science (BCogSc)

*offers co-op option

In Carleton's Cognitive Science program, students study the mind by combining the methods and theories of five disciplines: neuroscience, computer science, psychology, linguistics and philosophy. Students develop expertise in one of five concentrations: Biological Foundations of Cognition; Cognition and Computation; Cognition and Psychology; Language and Linguistics; or Philosophical and Conceptual Issues. The program offers boundary-breaking exploration of human, animal and artificial intelligence.

English (BA)

*offers co-op option and performance-based learning

Through Carleton's English program, students embark on a literary journey that transcends time and borders, where classic literature meets contemporary storytelling. Students explore stories as tools for self-reflection, creative thinking and problem-solving. In the Creative Writing concentration, students can pair their literary studies with skill-building writing workshops. Ottawa is home to a vibrant literary community that hosts many events — big and small — like prestigious national galas, the Ottawa International Writers Festival and coffeehouse writer circles.

Environmental and Climate Change Studies (BA)

*offers field work, co-op option and practicum

The Environmental and Climate Change Studies program at Carleton prepares students to participate effectively in environmental debates critical to our future. The health of our planet depends on creative thinkers willing to tackle climate change, pollution, food insecurity and biodiversity loss. Students can focus on the conservation of natural systems, natural resource management, environmental organizations and institutions, sustainable economies, environmental education and activism or research.

Film Studies (BA)

*offers practicum

Students in Carleton's Film Studies program explore the history and aesthetics of film and other moving-image media, the main currents and developments in filmmaking, and the works of some of the world's best filmmakers. Other areas of study include the documentary and the musical; animation; experimental film and digital media; African, Indigenous, Japanese, Indian, European and Canadian cinema; film theory; film technology; and silent cinema. Students can gain experience through practicums with local film production companies, film festivals, museums and archives.

French (BA)

*offers co-op option

Nestled in the bilingual community of Ottawa-Gatineau, Carleton's French program offers courses tailored to students at all language proficiency levels. Students have the opportunity to specialize in literary studies or French linguistics and explore topics ranging from emerging voices in Quebec literature, writers from Africa and the Caribbean and the social dynamics of language. Exchange opportunities are available, along with an immersive course in Quebec City. Students aspiring to be French immersion teachers are assured placement in Nipissing University's teacher education program.

General Studies (Online BA)

This is a highly flexible program designed for students interested in pursuing a multidisciplinary 15-credit, non-honours Bachelor of Arts degree entirely online, or through a mix of online and in-person courses. The BA General Studies will expose you to a broad range of ideas in the humanities, social sciences, culture and communications. You'll be able to tailor your studies to suit your interests, selecting from a wide variety of subject areas and hundreds of online and in-person courses. You may also choose to pursue one or two minors in selected subjects. This program is ideal for students interested in flexible distance learning options.

Geography (BA and BSc)

*offers field work, co-op option and practicum

Carleton offers both a BA in Geography and a BSc in Physical Geography. Explore the intricate connections between people, places and the environment and better understand Earth's processes through a comprehensive blend of cutting-edge technology, field work courses and critical thinking. Carleton's Geography programs equip students with the skills to address pressing global challenges, from climate change and urbanization to social inequality and natural resource management.

Geomatics (BA and BSc)

*offers field work, co-op option and practicum

The Geomatics programs at Carleton integrate hands-on learning in modern laboratories with field experiences, co-op opportunities and practicum placements, providing an education that opens doors to exciting opportunities worldwide. Students receive intensive training covering geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing (satellite and aerial imaging) and cartography and gain expertise in desktop, web-based and mobile applications. Explore diverse topics such as urban planning, transportation analysis, ecosystem and environmental resource management, and public health and security while developing proficiency with industry-standard software and hardware tools.

Greek and Roman Studies (BA)

*offers field work option

The Greek and Roman Studies program at Carleton offers a comprehensive exploration of ancient Greece and Rome, spanning literature, language, history, philosophy, mythology, religion, society, economics, technology, art, architecture and archaeology. This interdisciplinary program enables students to delve into material culture, history, literature, languages (Ancient Greek and Latin) and epigraphy. Notably, students can embark on exciting archaeological excavation experiences in countries such as Greece, Italy and Turkey through an archaeological field work course.

History (BA)

*offers co-op option and practicum

Students in the History program uncover the complex forces that have shaped our world. Whether delving into war, revolution, the Americas, Africa, sports or sexuality, students connect with the past in innovative ways, from recording podcasts and designing historical games to digitizing medieval manuscripts and crafting historical fiction. The program provides unparalleled access to work experience through co-op and practicum placements with museums and government agencies in the National Capital Region. Students in the Public History concentration explore how history appears in our everyday lives — in communities, movies, video games, music and more.

History and Theory of Architecture (BA)

*offers practicum

Through Carleton's History and Theory of Architecture program, students immerse themselves in the study of the built environment. This program opens doors to careers in architecture, design, heritage conservation and planning. Students explore Canadian and European architecture, Indigenous Peoples' architectural heritage and Islamic architecture and receive hands-on experience, learning by engaging with real buildings and participating in practicums with government agencies and private architectural firms.



"I am glad to have chosen History and Theory of Architecture because of the enriched architecture courses both technically and historically. As someone who aspires to be an architect, I'm thankful to my professors who have taught me the historical importance of communities. I am also glad to have chosen Carleton because of its vibrant student community, and I'm actively involved with Carleton's Art and Architectural History Undergraduate Society."

Anders M., History and Theory of Architecture



"The Bachelor of Humanities has given me the opportunity to learn about various cultures and time periods within a welcoming environment. The professors care about their students and want them to succeed."

Caroline M., Bachelor of Humanities

Human Rights and Social Justice (BA)

*offers co-op option

Carleton's Human Rights and Social Justice program prepares students to challenge discrimination and promote equity both locally and globally. Students analyze global struggles, engage in advocacy and explore various mechanisms for change. Graduates leave equipped with legal, social and political tools and strategies for challenging forms of discrimination, subjugation and persecution, such as those based on race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, political opinion and historical practices of colonialism and exploitation.

Humanities (BHum)

*offers field work option

The Bachelor of Humanities is Carleton's Great Books program. Students immerse themselves in the profound power of human thought, culture and creativity through the world's most influential books, uncovering big ideas in history, philosophy, literature, art, music and politics. The program offers lively discussion and debate, small class sizes, excellent scholarships and funding opportunities, overseas travel opportunities and a tight-knit community of students and faculty.

Indigenous Studies (BA)

*offers land-based learning

Carleton's Indigenous Studies program centres Indigenous worldviews and knowledge and reflects the priorities of Indigenous Peoples. Courses cover Indigenous feminisms, genders and sexualities; ecological ways of knowing; Indigenous urbanisms; Indigenous legal orders; historical and contemporary Indigenous political struggles; Indigenous arts and culture; Indigenous languages and their relationships to the land; and global Indigeneity, among others. Students can participate in urgent agendas of change: decolonization, climate action, Indigenous cultural and political resurgence, anti-racist education, grassroots capacity-building, law and policy reform, and revising public narratives of Canada and beyond.

Linguistics (BA and BSc)

*offers practicum

Carleton's Linguistics programs delve into the scientific examination of human language, tackling diverse concepts such as language comprehension, production, structure, acquisition, global language diversity, disabilities and historical changes. The programs offer various pathways, including theoretical and experimental approaches, psychology, neuroscience, computer science and speech-language pathology. A practicum is available for those aspiring to become Speech-Language Pathologists, paving the way for post-graduate studies in this field.

Music (BA and BMus)

*offers practicum

Music students immerse themselves in musical and academic pursuits right in the heart of the nation's capital, where a thriving music scene and an array of festivals await. The Music programs allow students to learn from leading artist-teachers and explore various aspects of music through courses in music history, popular music studies and ethnomusicology. BMus students receive one-on-one performance instruction, participate in recitals and choose from diverse program pathways like jazz studies, composition, and classical music. Ensemble offerings include a collaboration with mentors from the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra, a singer-songwriter ensemble, a West African Rhythm ensemble and many more. The BA in Music (non-performance-based) focuses on music as a historical and social phenomenon.

Philosophy (BA)

The Philosophy program at Carleton encourages students to cultivate critical thinking skills, nurtures their creativity and fosters an appreciation for diverse perspectives on profound matters. The program's innovative courses cover topics such as bioethics, environmental ethics, metaphysics and epistemology. The program's small class sizes, guest talks and close-knit student community lead to frequent stimulating philosophical discussions among students and professors. Students wishing to combine the study of ethics and the analysis of social and public policies can complete a concentration in Philosophy, Ethics and Public Affairs.

Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences (BSc)

*offers practicum

Explore clinical and experimental areas of linguistics as they apply to first language acquisition, speech-language differences and disabilities, how language is represented and processed in the brain, the range of linguistic variation and biological and evolutionary aspects of language. Explore practicum opportunities for clinical experience in speech-language pathology. Concentrations in Computer Science, Neuroscience or Psychology are available.

Psychology (BA and BSc)

*offers co-op option and practicum

The Psychology programs at Carleton offer an in-depth exploration of the mechanisms that underlie our thoughts, emotions and behaviours. Students can tailor their degree with a concentration in Cognitive, Developmental, Forensic, Health, or Social/Personality Psychology. Students can join research labs, explore a plethora of co-op and practicum opportunities, and participate in the annual undergraduate research event to showcase their scholarly pursuits.

Religion (BA)

In Carleton's Religion program, students will learn about major world religions — Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Indigenous traditions — and develop a critical understanding of how religion plays a key role in modern-day politics and society. Students

explore how religion informs identities and shapes power relations in different societies around the world. The program equips students for our multicultural world, where religious beliefs play a significant role in human affairs and continue to affect local and global events.

Sociology (BA)

*offers co-op option and practicum

Students in Carleton's Sociology program explore how families, economic inequalities, sexuality, gender, race, the law and the state shape individuals and how individuals shape these social institutions and structures. Students can explore crucial topics through hands-on research and further their learning through co-op and practicums. The program offers a stream in Social Justice, providing students with firsthand experience learning from community leaders and partnering with community-based organizations to do research, work on campaigns and contribute to public events, documentary films and more.

Women's and Gender Studies (BA)

*offers co-op option and practicum

Explore the enlightening world of feminist scholarship and its connection to lived experiences through Carleton's Women's and Gender Studies program. Students explore and examine social justice and the intersections of race, gender, class, disability, sexuality and more while gaining practical experience through placements in various organizations and cultural institutions. The program fosters wellness and provides a supportive home for students of all identities, making it an extraordinary choice for those passionate about social change and gender equality.

Undeclared

Not sure what you want to study or interested in many subject areas? Take time to explore your options by choosing from a wide variety of courses in your first year. Discover your interests, abilities and values. Explore a variety of programs, talk to an advisor, professors and other students before declaring your major at the end of first year.



"There's a saying, 'If you do what you love, you'll never have to work a day in your life!' Everyone in the music program, from professors to students, takes so much joy in their music that it's contagious! I've had so many amazing experiences with these people, from performing with classmates to a course abroad in Africa."

Anastasia W., Bachelor of Music

Minors

Many of our majors are also offered as minors. The following programs are offered exclusively as minors.

Archaeology

Students have the opportunity to participate in archeological projects including the Gabii Project in Italy.

Community Engagement

Students develop theoretical tools and practical skills to engage with and build community, enabling them to work for change while respecting differences.

Critical Race Studies

This minor explores white supremacy, settler colonialism, anti-black and systemic racisms, and histories of racialization, migration and diaspora in Canada and around the world, drawing on interdisciplinary perspectives from across the university.

Digital Humanities

This minor is designed to equip students with the critical thinking and cultural literacies necessary for harnessing the theoretical and creative possibilities from computing technologies, networks and digital culture.

Disability Studies

Students will explore the ethics, politics, history and contemporary culture dynamics of disability from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Environmental and Climate Humanities

This minor allows students to explore environmental issues and climate change through a humanities and social sciences lens.

Heritage and Conservation

The minor in Heritage and Conservation allows students to critically examine definitions of heritage, why it matters, who it serves and who makes decisions as to what is preserved.

Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Gain an interdisciplinary understanding of the Middle Ages and Early Modern period, as experienced not only in European or Byzantine contexts, but also in the Islamic world.

Modern Languages

Learning to communicate in a second or additional language can be an enriching and fulfilling part of your educational experience.

Sexuality Studies

Interdisciplinary approach to studying sexuality in its historical context and through current social, political and cultural practices.

Technology, Society, Environment Studies

This multidisciplinary, multi-faculty minor addresses the problems that have been created by the interactions of technology, society and the environment.

Urban Studies

Helps students understand how cities work (or fail to work) and provides the concepts and skills needed to tackle critical questions of metropolitan governance, urban development and quality of life.

Other BA programs at Carleton

Criminology and Criminal Justice; European and Russian Studies; Law; and Political Science are offered through the Faculty of Public and Global Affairs.

Down below our buildings, Carleton's campus is connected by a series of convenient underground tunnels featuring vibrant murals painted by students.





Discover campus

Join us for a tour

One of the best ways to get to know Carleton is to explore our campus in-person or online. Plan your perfect visit today.
carleton.ca/tours



Don't miss our events

There are so many ways to connect with Carleton! We offer several events throughout the year to connect you to Carleton and answer your questions.
admissions.carleton.ca/events

We are here

Carleton is 200 km from Montreal, 400 km from Toronto and 100 km from New York state. Ottawa is home to an international airport, two VIA Rail train stations and a stop on several intercity bus services.





Undergraduate Admissions

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