

Undergraduate Newsletter
Department of Biology
September 2025 Issue



Welcome to the September issue, and Welcome back to the community of Biology! We trust that you are refreshed, settled in, and ready to pursue more endeavours for this year and beyond.

Part of the September newsletter is the start of highlighting important program reminders. It is best to consider or adjust your plan/program at this stage of the academic year to meet the needed requirements, especially after a hectic course selection period. Please feel free to contact us (Rachel Batson or Paul Grogan) for advice and help.

The September issue also marks the start of this year's career-building opportunities, such as fellowships and research awards. Check them out and ready your submissions for these lucrative endeavours!

ASURF - The Arts & Science Undergraduate Research Fund

An important source for funding undergraduate research endeavours is offered by ASUS. The Arts and Science Undergraduate Research Fund (ASURF) was implemented to foster a community amongst undergraduate scholars and promote a greater investment in undergraduate research. ASUSF Winter 2025 Applications are now open → [ASURF — ASUS \(queensasus.com\)](https://queensasus.com)

Queen's Work Study Program

The Queen's Work Study program provides eligible students the opportunity to receive priority for certain part-time positions during a specified period of study. Many of these opportunities can be focused on undergraduate research experience in the various labs. Check out the details and the application @ [Queen's Work Study Program | Registrar & Financial Aid Services \(queensu.ca\)](https://queensu.ca/workstudy)

Queen's Undergraduate Internship Program (QUIP)

QUIP provides students with a 12–16-month internship experience. QUIP internships are paid, professionally supervised, career-related positions offering students the opportunity to learn about current practices, advances, and technologies in business and industry.

<https://careers.queensu.ca/jobs-experience/internships-quip>

Queen's Summer Work Experience Program (SWEP)

The Summer Work Experience Program (SWEP) has provided Queen's undergraduate students with an engaging, challenging, and rewarding summer work experience. The program encourages creation of on-campus summer jobs that provide valuable experiences for Queen's undergraduate students. <https://careers.queensu.ca/jobs-experience/summer-swap>

WE'RE HIRING



POSITIONS OPEN:

- Secretary
- UG Reps (x2)
- Year Reps (x4)
- I-EDIAA Rep
- Academic Coordinators (x3)
- Fundraising Coordinators (x2)
- Social Coordinators (x3)
- Marketing Coordinators (x3)

**APPLY NOW! APPLICATIONS
ARE IN OUR LINKTREE**



**Applications are open NOW until FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER
12th at 4PM**

Planning considerations for the 2025-2026 academic year

Now that registration is beginning to settle and attention turned onto courses, it is prudent to take a moment to assess your plan. After the first week of classes, you should have a better sense of your courses, and the adjustments needed to maximize your academic performance in your plan of choice. Aspects to reflect on would be course workload, and the balance between core and interest. Many upper year courses can be scheduled flexibly between third and fourth year.



How many courses can count towards your degree plan from other Faculties?

A maximum of 6.00 units from courses offered by other Faculties and Schools may be counted toward the program and/or Plan requirements. This includes courses in BMED, COMM, GLPH, HSCI, LAW, NURS, and courses offered by Smith Engineering. <https://www.queensu.ca/academic-calendar/arts-science/courses-instruction-other-faculties-schools/>

What is the “APR”?

The APR is the Academic Progress Report. It is a handy tool that reviews your plan requirements, tracks progression, and it tells you what you have completed. To run an APR please visit: <https://www.queensu.ca/artsci/undergrad-students/academic-requirements-reports-in-solus>. Students are expected to run their APR both prior to and after registration. The APR will help flag potential concerns with respect to your registration and plan/program requirements.

Need help with your studies?

Please visit Student Academic Success Services (SASS) at <http://sass.queensu.ca/>. SASS offers academic support to students who wish to develop their skills in critical thinking, reading, learning, studying, writing and self management.

Looking for a job?

Wondering about career options or maybe considering Graduate School, then visit: <https://careers.queensu.ca/>

Looking for study and travel opportunities → <https://www.queensu.ca/ipo/>

REMINDERS!

Biology Degree Plans

Review your degree plan requirements and make sure you are selecting courses you need. Degree plan requirements can be found @ <https://www.queensu.ca/academic-calendar/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/biology/>

Biological Foundations List - IMPORTANT!

It is very important to keep this GPA requirement in mind throughout your program, starting with first year. To be admitted to 400 and 500 level Biology courses, you will need a minimum GPA of 2.0 in any previously taken courses from Biological Foundations list.

The Biological Foundations List is: BIOL 102, 103, 200, 205, 206, 212, 300, 330, 334, 339, & 341.

To be admitted to BIOL 400 and 500 level Biology courses you will need a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 in any previously taken courses from this list.

Helpful Links:

<https://www.queensu.ca/artsci/events>

[Arts and Science Calendar](#)

<https://biology.queensu.ca/current-students/undergraduate-students/faq>

QUBS Quick Links

Website: <https://qubs.ca>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/QUBioStation>

Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/qubsoutreach>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/QUBScam>

BIOLOGY Undergraduate Office

Monday to Friday 9:30am – 12:00pm & 1:00pm – 3:00pm

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