

Undergraduate Newsletter
Department of Biology
September 2026 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.

The September newsletter is the start of highlighting important plan/program reminders. Please feel free to reach out to Rachel Batson or Adam Chippindale for advice/help with your plan requirements.

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!

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://careers.queensu.ca/jobs-experience/internships-quip)

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>

Planning considerations for the 2026-2027 academic year

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. Aspects to reflect on would be course workload and balance between core and interest.



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

A maximum of 12.00 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 Hours

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

In-Person or Virtual meetings.

Reach out @ ug.biology@queensu.ca