

WATER RESOURCE SCIENCE HBSc

EXPERIENTIAL MAJOR MAP



FIRST YEAR

MIDDLE YEARS

FINAL YEAR

ACADEMIC SUCCESS



DEVELOP

a Course Plan and Build Academic Skills

- Review program requirements on the [Academic Calendar](#).
- Read and understand the [Academic Regulations](#).
- Familiarize yourself with your [myInfo](#) account, self-help and degree audit tools.
- Check out the [Academic Support Zone](#) for free writing and tutoring support.
- Meet with [Student Accessibility Services](#) if you need academic accommodations.
- Complete your Standard First Aid with Adult CPR, which will be helpful for field school and field related courses. Start thinking about potential careers that you are interested in!
- If you haven't considered the Specialization in Applied Environmental Resource Management, a joint program with Confederation College, reach out to the program coordinator to learn more.
- Did you know you can earn a Certificate in Geomatics through required courses and electives?

- Attend Academic Skills Prep Sessions offered by the [Academic Support Zone](#).
- Meet with your program coordinator or a Student Central Professional to discuss your academic progress, and current/future courses.
- Ensure your degree audit is accurate, including exceptions if any.
- Consider post-degree programs that may require specific courses or academic requirements - create a plan.
- Meet with your program coordinator and the Academic Support Zone.
- Build field work skills in the third year field course held at Pukaskwa National Park.
- Consider enrolling in the Field Course in Aquatic Ecology in the semester before your final year.
- Think about undergrad thesis topics and research areas of interest. Connect with faculty for assistance. Choose a potential thesis supervisor and thesis project by the end of third year.
- If you are in the Specialization in Applied Environmental Resource Management, complete the Entry-Level Drinking Water Operator Course and write your exams for the Water and Wastewater Operator-in-Training Certification.

- Meet with your program coordinator and [Student Central](#) to ensure you have completed and are in-progress to complete degree requirements needed for graduation.
- Submit your Intent to Graduate (on [myInfo](#)).
- RSVP for convocation ceremonies.
- Understand application requirements, processes and deadlines for future programs of interest.
- Write and present an Honours thesis to demonstrate your skills in scientific research, written communication, oral communication, and project management.
- Submit your final thesis with all required signatures and email a PDF to the Library for archives.

ACADEMIC SKILLS CHECKLIST

- Review your program requirements on the [Academic Calendar](#)
- Do a degree audit
- Visit the [Academic Support Zone](#)
- Meet regularly with the program coordinator to ensure degree requirements are being met
- Develop professional contacts with faculty instructors
- Explore research areas of interest to you
- Declare your Intent to Graduate



CONNECT

and Gain Experience with the Local and Global Community

- Register in courses with in-class experiential learning opportunities such as case studies and labs.
 - Meet the Chair of your Department - get to know them, and let them get to know you.
 - Seek connections outside Lakehead through volunteer or work experience within the community e.g. [North Shore Steelhead Association](#) and [EarthCare Thunder Bay](#).
 - Have you met the Dean? If not, make an appointment! Take advantage of and participate in weekend or course field trips.
 - Expand your interests and connect with peers; join a free [club](#).
 - Join GALU: the Geological Association of Lakehead University and/or LABS: Lakehead Association of Biology Students.
 - If you're an international student, check out Lakehead International [resources and programs](#).
- If you identify as Indigenous check out [Indigenous Initiatives](#) and the [Indigenous Student Services Centre](#).

- Develop networks and connect with your professors. Ask professors about research opportunities.
- Consider [studying abroad](#).
- Visit faculty during office hours even when you don't have a specific query. Get to know them; this is important for future work supervision.
- Find an opportunity to volunteer in a field that interests you. This will help you gather experience, make connections, and build transferable skills.
- See what professors are working on; sometimes they look for student workers during the year.
- Practice effective oral communication through class discussions and presentations.
- Engage with research that interests you. Look into faculty research, conferences, and workshops.
- Become a member of the Geological Association of Lakehead University (GALU) or Biology (LABS).

- Consider working on applied research, such as a thesis project.
- Join different networking platforms such as [LinkedIn](#) or [Lakehead Connect](#).
- Communicate interest in career-related opportunities with your professor.
- Attend the annual [Career Fairs](#).
- [Attend](#) career fairs and employer events.
- Consider volunteering with [Let's Talk Science](#).
- If you are completing an Honours thesis, talk to your supervisor about presenting your research at an academic conference.
- Keep building up your experience; volunteer or consider a work-study placement.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CHECKLIST

- Take advantage of local volunteer activities.
- Consider an academic exchange through Lakehead's [Study Abroad](#) program.
- Participate in LABS and/or GALU
- Join [Lakehead Connect](#) Networking and Mentorship Program to speak to Alumni and Peers!
- Talk to a Student Success Advisor about starting your [Co-Curricular Record](#).



FIRST YEAR

MIDDLE YEARS

FINAL YEAR

ACADEMIC SUCCESS



PREPARE

for Postgraduation or Career

- Visit the Career Zone to find out about the services offered.
- Check out the job bank on [MySuccess](#) to learn about summer jobs and on-campus opportunities in your program. Research employment opportunities tied to skills developed in Water Resource Science. You can find jobs and volunteer positions on [mySuccess](#) or through [other job banks](#).
- Try to gain summer employment as a research assistant in a lab, or as a technical assistant with a provincial ministry or environmental consultant.

- Start connecting with employers through on campus recruitment events, such as career fairs and employer visits
- Join [Lakehead Connect](#) to make connections with alumni in industry
- Develop relationships with faculty. Future references can be important.
- Consider a [work-study](#) job, which is a great opportunity to gain experience, as well as assist in the cost of your education.
- Review your program requirements with a [Student Central](#) Advisor.
- Seek out summer employment as a field or lab assistant with a provincial ministry, federal agency or environmental consulting firm or as a summer undergraduate research assistant to a faculty member.

- Build career readiness skills by attending resume, job search and interview skills workshops through the Career Zone.
- [Attend](#) the Career and Job Fairs to network with employers.
- Consider and discuss graduate school options with your faculty and your honours thesis supervisor.
- Finish strong with your final year – in many cases, grad programs only look at your last year or two of grades.
- Attend a scientific conference to share your research.
- Present your honours thesis research at Student Research Day during [Research and Innovation Week](#).

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CHECKLIST

- Check out Resources and Tools on the [Career Zone Website](#) to learn more about resumes, cover letters, networking tips, and more!
- Create a [LinkedIn](#) Account.
- Attend Career Zone job readiness workshops.
- Network during Volunteer and Career Fairs. Book an appointment to have your resume reviewed.
- Apply for job opportunities in your field.
- Consider taking the [Strong Interest Inventory Assessment](#) to learn about career options.
- Keep track of your skills and experiences for your future cover letters.
- Understand the terms and conditions of your provincial funding to understand the repayment requirements.

▶ What skills do employers want?

- Written and verbal communication skills
- GIS knowledge; remote sensing is an asset
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Interpret and apply related acts, regulations, policies, procedures, and agreements that govern resource management.
- General computer skills
- Ability to synthesize data and information

▶ What skills will I gain with this major?

- Problem solving skills and knowledge concerning our natural environment
- An understanding of how natural systems function and interact
- The effects of human activity on the natural environment
- Techniques for rehabilitating damaged systems
- Communication skills
- Adaptability and creativity
- Analyzing and interpretation skills

▶ What graduate degrees could I pursue?

- Masters of Science in Biology,
- Masters of Science in Environmental Studies,
- Masters of Science in Geology/Geoscience/Earth Science,
- Masters of Science in Geography,
- Masters of Integrated Water Resource Management

▶ What can I add to my degree?

- Specialization in Applied Environmental Water Management.
- Water and Wastewater Operator in Training (OIT) Certificate in Geomatics
- Entry-Level Drinking Water Operator Course

▶ What careers can I pursue?*

- Hydrologist
- Environmental Technician
- Public Works Manager
- Water Resources, Systems, or Treatment Engineer
- Watershed Manager
- Environmental Consultant
- Environmental Programs Manager

*Your career path is not limited to this list. There could be other options to explore!

▶ What field of work are alumni working in?

- Environmental consulting
- Post-secondary education
- Conservation authorities
- Provincial ministries e.g. OMNDMNR
- Federal agencies e.g. DFO
- Geomatics
- Fisheries
- Limnology

▶ What percentage of graduates are employed within 2 years after graduation?

- Other Arts and Sciences: 97.2%

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE

THUNDER BAY (SC0008)

(807) 343-8018
ssc@lakeheadu.ca
Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 4:30pm

ORILLIA (OR1021)

(705) 330-4010 x 2118
orillia.ssc@lakeheadu.ca
Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 4:30pm

CAREER ZONE

THUNDER BAY (UC00)

(807) 343-8010 x 8264
careerzone.ssc@lakeheadu.ca
Monday - Friday | 10:00am - 4:30pm

SOCIAL MEDIA

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