



Students in Work & Labour Studies can apply to our new co-op program option. Work & Labour Studies co-op students will develop and apply practical skills and insights as they alternate between classroom and paid workspace experience.

New Co-op Program Option

Work and Labour Studies

How are new technologies (like robots) impacting our jobs?
 How can we achieve gender and racial equity at work?
 Can we find a way to make work healthier mentally and physically – and maybe even rewarding and good for you?
 How do unions promote our rights at work and democracy in society?
 What are the best new ways to organize workers, especially young workers, in the 21st century?
 These questions and more will be explored by students in Work and Labour Studies.

As an interdisciplinary field of study, Work and Labour Studies integrates:

sociology, political science, law, history, economics, geography, health, and many others.

Our graduates have successful careers in: labour law, community development, policy analysis, public service, teaching, occupational health and safety, human resources, and more.

Our small program allows students to get to know their professors and we seek to engage, inform, challenge and learn from our students.



Degree options

To apply to Work and Labour Studies, students must successfully complete a Social Sciences Level I program, including in one of Work and Labour Studies 1A03, 1D03 or 1E03.

Honours Work and Labour Studies B.A.	Grade Point Average of at least 5.0 (C) including a grade of at least 5.0 (C) in one of WRKLABR 1A03, 1D03 or 1E03.
Honours Work and Labour Studies B.A. with Co-op Option	Grade Point Average of at least 5.0 (C) including a grade of at least 5.0 (C) in one of WRKLABR 1A03, 1D03, or 1E03. Enrollment is limited.
Combined Honours B.A. in Work and Labour Studies & another subject	Grade Point Average of at least 5.0 (C) including a grade of at least 5.0 (C) in one of WRKLABR 1A03, 1D03 or 1E03. Satisfaction of admission requirements for the Honours program in the other B.A. subject.
Minors	Work and Labour Studies

For students interested in pursuing the Work and Labour Studies B.A., please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar.

Research and Teaching

Our faculty conduct cutting-edge research on domestic and international work and labour issues.

- We are leaders in:
- community-engaged research
 - collaborating with unions and community organizations
 - promoting social and economic equality

Level I courses

WRKLABR 1A03

An Introduction to Work and Labour in Canada

An examination of how workers experiences have been shaped by economic and technological change, and by gender, ethnicity, and race. It will explore how workers have organized in the workplace and beyond to create positive social change.

WRKLABR 1D03

Technology and the Future of Work

This course explores the future of work in the face of the advances in robotics, artificial intelligence, and other technologies, and consider which jobs are most vulnerable to automation. How is technology changing the work/life balance, and how will the current 4th industrial revolution be different than the previous ones? Most importantly, how can we organize to make machines enhance our lives instead of threatening our futures.

WRKLABR 1E03

Navigating the World of Work

Work is central to our quality of life, identities, and well-being. However, finding and keeping work that is meaningful, fair, safe, and sustainable is becoming more challenging. This course explores the changing nature of today's increasingly global workplaces and labour markets, the way that class, 'race', gender and ability shape our access to work, the laws and regulations that define workplace rights and obligations, and the strategies workers use to navigate these relationships.

Beyond first year

Choose from a variety of courses, such as:

- Creating and Connecting: Pop Culture, Social Media and Work
- Gender, Sexuality and Work
- Labour and Employment Law
- Labour and Globalization
- Work: Dangerous to your Health?
- Work and the Environment
- Working Precariously: Labour Strategies, Labour Renewal
- Work and Racism
- Sports, Work and Labour

Careers & Experiential Education

- Through Careers & Experiential Education programs, you can participate in paid internships, a tuition-free career planning course, academic placements and job shadowing
- In Unions in Action (WRKLABR 2A03), learn about the internal structures of unions and assess their strengths and areas of improvement. You will also discover how unions make decisions and shape policymaking through participatory exercises, including a simulated labour convention
- In Community Engaged Research (WRKLABR 3Q03), learn to conduct research that solves community problems in collaboration with community partners
- Students can apply to participate in a co-op program option. Each program option involves full-time "work terms" added into the structure of an academic program. Get hands on experience within your field of interest.

More than **93%** report their Labour Studies degree was important in securing their first job

About **75%** are employed in a field directly related to their degree program.

Skills development

- Learn to solve problems using critical, reasoned thought
- Develop a well-rounded, holistic view of social and economic issues in all their complexity
- Hone communication skills through verbal presentations, podcasts, discussions and debates and use of social media
- Sharpen social research skills by conducting surveys, interviews, and fieldwork
- Develop writing skills for a variety of audiences, including through descriptive reports and analytical papers
- Analyze root causes of social problems, and work towards solutions with diverse groups of people

Potential careers

- Human Resources Manager
- Human Rights and Labour Lawyer
- Labour Relations Manager
- Occupational Health & Safety Coordinator
- Union Representatives
- Policy Analyst

"All of my classes have provided me with the skills and knowledge to allow me to be successful in my future career path by encouraging me to ask questions and explore my curiosity further by researching different avenues that have been discussed in class."

– **Zoe Mackeracher**

MEET A
FELLOW
STUDENT



"The Work & Labour studies program is multidisciplinary, as it provides students with useful knowledge about the history and future of work. The classroom experience is very unique and personable, as each professor is extremely passionate in their research. To anyone who is looking for a program to help them grow as a student and a person, this program is the right fit for you."

– **Stephanie Panovski**

MEET A
FELLOW
STUDENT

