Succeed in the workplace

What employers want
The Canadian Council of Chief Executives list the top 6 skills sought by employers as:
1. People skills
2. Communication skills
3. Problem-solving skills
4. Analytical abilities
5. Leadership skills
6. Industry-specific knowledge

Take the time to think about the unique skills you have developed at Queen’s, starting with the skills list here for ideas. Explaining your strengths with compelling examples will be important for applications to employers and further education. For help, check out the Career Services skills workshop.

What can I learn studying HISTORY?

- Knowledge of a broad spectrum of historical events and trends
- Understanding of how historians study the past
- Knowledge of how political, social, economic, and cultural change occurs
- Understanding of the relationship between history and current events
- Oral and written communication to communicate ideas through writing and present research to a group
- Analytical skills to make judgements based on available historical evidence
- Research skills to synthesize large amounts of material and identify relevant information
- Attention to detail to analyze texts and historical arguments
- Problem solving to develop systematic procedures for investigating a problem
- Resource and time management

Get the help you need
Queens provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. At Queen’s, you are never alone. We have many offices dedicated to helping you learn, think and do. Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources, our welcoming living and learning environment is designed to help the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally, and Queen’s wants you to succeed! Check out the Student Affairs website for available resources.

Get to know HISTORY

The undergraduate program in History at Queen’s provides students with exciting opportunities to critically explore the roots of contemporary societies throughout the world. You can explore such diverse areas as the Crusades, slavery and race relations, Native history in the Americas, the Russian Revolution, the problems of 20th century Canadian unity, the economic development of Africa, and the perception and treatment of women in North America. Our seminar-based undergraduate program offers something hard to find these days — small classes where students and instructors discuss what they have read, what they think, and what they believe. With an emphasis on developing speaking, research and writing skills, a history degree provides a sound preparation for careers in education, law, public service, journalism, and business.

History courses at Queen’s are divided into two types: lecture courses and seminars. Lecture courses with approximately 100 students introduce students to the broad contours of historical inquiry. Second-year seminars form a fundamental part of the program. Seminars are small, discussion-based classes of roughly 20 to 25 students. Seminars provide an opportunity to develop communication skills necessary to pursue the discipline at the graduate level or employment in the marketplace.

Course HIGHLIGHTS
If specific time periods are your interest there are courses that cover every period such as The Crusades, Slavery in North America from the Colonial Era to 1865, or The Holocaust. If your interest is more regional there are courses such as India and the World, Africa and Business, and for other students it takes some discovery to uncover where your real interests and opportunities for success are. Sometimes that discovery happens fairly quickly, and for other students it takes some work and time before the “ah-ha!” happens – either way your first year at Queen’s will be a great experience.

That is a degree from Queen’s.

queens.ca/history
In first year take one of HIST 121, HIST 122, HIST 124, or HIST 125 (or BISC 100 and 101 at Herstmonceux Castle).

If interested in the Medieval Studies minor, take ENG 100 and one of LATN 110, GREK 112 or ARAB 100.

Each Plan will have at least one required first-year course, including minors. It is important to take a variety of first-year courses to keep as many pathways open as possible for you going into second year. For details see the Arts and Science Academic Calendar.

You must take a 6.0-unit second year “core seminar” (HIST 300-329) before proceeding to upper level seminars in third and fourth year. See more on core seminars on the History Department website. The department recommends you take at least two, 200- level lecture courses in second year, in addition to the seminar. Please see the Academic Calendar to ensure you are taking the correct courses.

Want to enhance your degree? Consider a certificate in Employment Relations or explore other certificates available.

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