

Classics and Archaeology MA Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in CLASSICS AND ARCHAEOLOGY?

Studying Classics and Archaeology leads to a wider appreciation of human values and achievements, and a more objective understanding of ourselves and our times. Multi-disciplinary in approach, Classics and Archaeology involves the studies of history, literature, archaeology, religion, mythology, drama, and philosophy, in addition to the ancient languages of Greek and Latin. Today our understanding of Greek and Roman culture is further enhanced by the latest digital techniques that increasingly pervade studies in archaeology, epigraphy, papyrology, ancient science, and medicine.

Why QUEEN'S?

The Queen's MA program stands out for its broad and interdisciplinary nature. Because our graduate program is relatively small, we are able to provide our students with individual attention and support. Our faculty members have expertise in Greek and Roman archaeology, history, ancient science, language, and literature, so your research opportunities are vast and varied. You will also have opportunities to get hands-on, global archaeological field experience by taking part in faculty-supervised digs around the Mediterranean world.



GRAD MAP FOR MA STUDENTS 



FIELDS of Study

The M.A. program offers two fields of study for students with different backgrounds and goals. One field gives our students the competences and skills for a Ph.D. and an academic career. The other is unique for its less traditional approach focusing on field archaeology, cultural heritage management, and other non-academic career paths.

- Classics and Archaeology (Greek and Latin required)
- Classical Studies and Archaeology (no Greek or Latin requirements)

We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying.

Visit the [Classics and Archaeology Department website](#) to read faculty profiles and learn more about faculty members' research areas. When you find a faculty member with similar research interests to yours, contact them and tell them about your interest in graduate work and related experience. This is also an opportunity for you to find out if the faculty member is accepting new graduate students to supervise.

Program STRUCTURE

The 2-year Classics and Archaeology M.A. program is offered in 2 patterns:

- **Pattern I (Thesis):** CLAS 800 and CLAS 802, plus 4 half courses, Thesis and Defence.
- **Pattern II (Major research paper or Project):** CLAS 800, CLAS 802, plus 6 half courses, and major research essay or project.

For both patterns there is also a research language requirement to be completed before finishing the program. Students in the Classics and Archaeology field shall demonstrate the ability to read and comprehend one of the languages of modern scholarship beyond English (e.g. by completing a year-long introductory course). Students in the Classical Studies and Archaeology field shall demonstrate either the ability to read and comprehend one of the languages of modern scholarship beyond English or an ancient language (e.g. by completing two years of introductory Greek or Latin).



Queen's
UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE STUDIES AND
POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

Classics and Archaeology MA Map

MASTER OF ARTS (MA)



GETTING STARTED

INTERMEDIATE STAGE

WRAPPING UP

ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS

- Start with key priorities like participating in the CLAS 800 ProSeminar, doing well in your coursework, and discussing your research interests and study plan with your supervisor and the graduate coordinator.
- Consider how your course papers can contribute to your essay or thesis.

- Complete your course requirements for your degree, and begin to research and write your research essay, project, or thesis.
- Start regular meetings with your supervisor to ensure your research essay, project, or thesis is on track.
- Participate in the CLAS 802 ProSeminar which includes a presentation at the annual Classics and Archaeology Symposium.

- In consultation with your supervisor, submit your research essay, project, or thesis to your reader(s). Complete the necessary steps to degree completion.

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT

- Start to think about the audiences for your research.
- If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for SSHRC and OGS funding.

- Use conferences and scholarly events as a chance for networking and exploring future opportunities of study and work.
- Consider participating in the [3 Minute Thesis \(3MT\)](#) competition.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.

- Consider presenting or writing a paper on your research.
- Attend a major conference in your field, such as those sponsored by the [Classical Association of Canada](#), the [Society for Classical Studies](#), the [Archaeological Institute of America](#), or the [American Society of Overseas Research](#).
- Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs for a [Grad Chat](#) to discuss your research interests.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Consider participating in the faculty-organized excavations abroad and doing research abroad for your thesis/project. Serve on departmental, faculty, or university committees.
- Participate in a faculty-directed Archaeological Dig project (CLAS 808/809/810).
- Check out professional development workshops from [School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development](#) and the [Centre for Teaching and Learning \(CTL\)](#).

- Start keeping an ePortfolio of your skills, experiences, and competencies.
- Use a Research Assistant or Teaching Assistant position to develop your research or teaching skills. Specify your subject preferences based on your skills and research interests.
- Consider submitting a proposal to offer an Enrichment Studies course in Classics and Archaeology for mid and high-school age children during the spring/summer term or other initiatives for the broader public and the Kingston community.

- Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and interviews. Get help from a [Career Services workshop](#).
- Investigate internships from [MITACS](#) and other sources.
- Check out opportunities for extra training through CTL, School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development, MITACS, or other sources to boost your skills.

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations, museums, and cultural studies groups, such as the [Kingston Association of Museums](#), the [Kingston Museum of Healthcare](#), and the [Queen's Archives](#).
- Consider programs such as the American School of Classical Studies at Athens or the American Academy in Rome Classical Summer School, for which funding may be available.

- Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups.
- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QUIC and Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre.
- If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an [International Student Advisor](#).

- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through [QueensConnects](#) on LinkedIn, the [Queen's Alumni Association](#), professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a [Career Services workshop](#).
- Consider joining professional associations like the [Classical Association of Canada](#), the [Archaeological Institute of America](#), the [American Society of Overseas Research](#), or the [Canadian Museums Association](#).

LAUNCH YOUR CAREER

- Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a [Career Services workshop](#) or meeting with a career educator and coach. Check out the [Career Resource Area](#) for advice on various career options.
- Start reading publications like [University Affairs](#) and the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#). Browse non-academic labour market websites. Stay on the lookout for special events like School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs Career Week to explore your career pathways.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

- Explore different careers of interest by using [QueensConnects](#) on LinkedIn to connect with Queen's alumni. Check out [Career Cruising](#) for more information.
- If you are considering a PhD, explore programs of interest reach out to faculty, and apply to PhD programs and external scholarships.

- Start focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your CV or resume for potential positions of interest. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, and interviews.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A graduate degree in Classics and Archaeology can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- **Knowledge and technical skills**
- **Effective communication skills** in multiple forms for diverse audiences
- **Information management:** prioritize, organize, and synthesize large amounts of information
- **Time management:** Meet deadlines and manage responsibilities despite competing demands
- **Project management:** develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
- **Creativity and innovation**
- **Perseverance**
- **Independence** and experience as a collaborative worker
- **Awareness**, an understanding of sound **ethical practices**, **social responsibility**, responsible research, and **cultural sensitivity**
- **Professionalism** in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
- **Leadership:** initiative and vision leading people and discussion

WHERE CAN I GO?

A Master's degree in Classics and Archaeology can take your career in many directions. Many of our MA students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Academia
- Art Galleries
- Business
- Education
- Field Archaeology
- Government
- Law
- Libraries
- Medicine
- Museums
- Publishing

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

How to use this map

Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. The map just offers suggestions – you don't have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the [My Grad Map](#) tool.

Graduate Studies FAQs

How do I make the most of my time at Queen's?

Use the Grad Map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. Everyone's journey is different - the ideas on the maps are just suggestions to help you explore possibilities. For more support with your professional development, take advantage of the SGSPA professional development framework and the new [Individual Development Plan \(IDP\)](#) process to set customized goals to help you get career ready when you graduate.

Where can I get help?

Queen's provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally. Check out the [SGSPA website](#) for available resources.

What is the community like?

At Queen's, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a close-knit intellectual community. You will find friends, peers and support among the graduate students enrolled in Queen's more than 130 graduate programs within 50+ departments & research centres. With the world's best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen's offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies. Queen's is an integral part of the Kingston community, with the campus nestled in the core of the city, only a 10-minute walk to downtown with its shopping, dining and waterfront. For more about Kingston's history and culture, see Queen's University's [Discover Kingston](#) page.

Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- 4-year bachelor degree in Classics and Archaeology or other relevant fields.
- **Grade requirements:** minimum first class or high second class standing (B+/A-average).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- A good knowledge of ancient Greek and Latin is required for the Classics and Archaeology field. There are no language requirements for admission to the Classical Studies and Archaeology field.
- A 5-10 page writing sample to be emailed to the Classics and Archaeology Graduate Program as a PDF.
- In the application you will be required to provide contact information for two referees. Referees will not be contacted until your application is submitted.
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the [English Language proficiency requirements](#) in writing, speaking, reading, and listening.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES

- **Application due:** February 15th to qualify for September admissions. Late submissions will be considered when possible.
- **Notification of acceptance:** Mid to late March.

Before you start your application, please review the [Graduate studies application process](#).

What about FUNDING?

Students enrolled in the Classics and Archaeology MA program receive a funding package of at least \$14,000 for each of the two years of study. Additional funding is available based on academic excellence. Your individual funding package will be described in the letter of offer.

Apply for external funding from OGS, SSHRC, and other sources. Queen's will automatically issue a one time \$5,000 award to incoming Masters students who have won federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' information on [awards and scholarships](#).

