

History

The History Department offers a wide range of courses that span from the pre-modern past to the contemporary era and geographically circle the globe. Courses build on a number of disciplinary vantage points and explore various themes, including cultural, economic, environmental, gender, global and transnational, Indigenous, intellectual, labour, legal, political, and religious history. In addition, students have the opportunity to undertake a variety of independent research, community projects, experiential learning, and internship opportunities. The emphasis on analysis, critical thinking, research, communication, and writing skills prepare history students for careers in law, education, public policy, business, museum and archives, publishing, research, and media.

TOP 5 Reasons to study History

- 1 A History degree provides essential skills for a variety of career options, including education, law, policy, public service, media, and business.
- 2 History offers a range of small-sized seminars, which allow students to interact with professors individually and provides an enriching learning experience.
- 3 The range of courses spans the globe. History lecture and seminar courses cover every continent, and many courses examine the interconnected nature of human experience.
- 4 History helps us to critically examine how the world we inhabit came to be.
- 5 A history degree offers opportunities for innovative independent research projects and a number of real-world experiential learning and public history internships.

Alumni Story

"Studying in the Queen's History department taught me a number of great things, including that I know a small fraction of what there is to know, but that I have the capacity to learn a lot through discussion, analysis, and hard work."
- Christine Platt, BAH '07

TOP ALUMNI JOBS

32% of alumni work in **EDUCATION**

15% of alumni work in **GOVERNMENT & NON-PROFIT**

9% of alumni work in **LAW**

7% of alumni work in **BANKING, INVESTMENT & INSURANCE**

Our alumni also work in fields such as **media, libraries and archives, management, museums**, and as **researchers and consultants** for industry. Listen to our [Alumni Archives Podcast](#) to learn more.

Add a **Certificate**

Data Analytics

Disability and Physical Activity

Geographic Information Science

Indigenous Languages and Cultures

International Studies

Sexual and Gender Diversity

Urban Planning Studies

2024-25 PlanThresholds

Thresholds are made on a competitive basis and are updated annually. To see the thresholds for all programs as well as the latest information, please visit quartsci.com/planselection

Interested in finding out how to augment your degree with Experiential Learning? Learn what opportunities and resources are available for you on the [Experiential Learning website](#). You can also reach out to the team directly at asc.el@queensu.ca.

[QUartsci.com/certs](https://quartsci.com/certs)

Acquire Skills. Gain Experience. Go Global.

That is a degree from Queen's.

queensu.ca/history

History MAJOR MAP

BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS): MAJOR, JOINT HONOURS, MINOR



1ST YEAR

2ND YEAR

3RD YEAR

4TH OR FINAL YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of History along with some electives. Enrol in one or two first-year History courses of your choosing to meet prerequisites for History courses in years 2 and above.

Meet with an upper-year [peer advisor](#) (PATH) or contact the [Department's Academic Advising Team](#). Attend [Majors Night](#) in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options.

Interested in getting a head start in learning and working in a digital world? Take [ASCX 150](#) and develop future-ready skills!

Dive deeper into the discipline of History by completing the second-year foundational core seminar course, while considering a minor to diversify your learning experience.

Want to make sure your academic skills are where you want them to be? Visit [SASS \(Student Academic Support Services\)](#) and the Writing Centre for some help.

A chance to enrol in upper-year seminar courses (HIST 333-499) and start grouping courses in areas of interest, or to keep your topic selection more interdisciplinary to explore many areas of History.

Meet with an [Academic Advisor](#) to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for next year.

In fourth year you will have the chance to participate in research-based courses that can lead to [Graduate School](#) or to your future career path. Make sure to finish up all your courses for your major and your optional minor and/or certificate(s).

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Join teams or clubs on campus such as the [Queen's Debating Union](#) (QDU) and [Queen's International Affairs Association](#). See the [AMS Clubs Directory](#) or the [Queen's Get Involved](#) page for more ideas.

Consider getting involved with the [History Department Student Council](#) to help shape the experience of all History students at Queen's.

Look into summer jobs by visiting the [department's Careers webpage](#) or talking to Career Services about work through [SWEP](#) or [Work-Study](#). Explore History's internship opportunities through [HIST 212: Experiential Learning in Historical Practice](#).

Consider taking more responsibility within different extracurriculars. Think about applying to positions in student services, the [AMS](#), media outlets like the [Queen's Journal](#), undergraduate journals like [Living Histories](#), [CFRC](#), and [Studio Q](#).

If interested, apply for an [Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship \(USSRF\)](#). Consider applying to do a 12-16 month [QUIP internship](#) between your third and fourth year. Consider applying for HIST 501/502 [Queen's Archives Internships](#) to build practical experience working with archives.

Explore [experiential learning opportunities](#) and apply to the [Department of History's internships program](#).

Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest. Assess what experience you're lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships – check out the Career Services [workshop](#) for help.

Consider completing an [Independent Research Paper](#) in History ([HIST 514/515](#)) and submit your work at the [Inquiry @ Queen's Undergraduate Conference](#).

Publish your work with peer reviewed journals like [Living Histories](#), [The Observer](#), or [Politicus](#).

GET ENGAGE WITH THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer on- or off-campus with different community organizations, museums, and cultural studies groups, such as the [AMS Social Issues Commission](#) and the [Kingston Museum of Healthcare](#). Check out [Kingston Museums](#) for more ideas.

Get involved with the [Department Student Council \(DSC\)](#) and attend [department events](#) to network with faculty and fellow students. Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as [Queen's Model Parliament](#).

Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group [Queen's Connects](#). Check out Career Services [networking workshops](#).

Consider joining professional associations like the [Heritage Canada Association](#) and the [Canadian Historical Association \(CHA\)](#). Become involved as a Peer Advisor in our [Peer Advising Team in History \(PATH\)](#).

GET ENGAGE GLOBALLY

Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking [QUIC's Intercultural Competency Certificate](#) and research possible immigration regulations.

Speak to a QUIC advisor to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.

Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to [study abroad](#). Apply in January for a third year exchange through [the International Programs Office](#).

Consider applying for a [HIST 517: Independent Study Project](#) during your studies abroad next year.

Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your language skills, perhaps through an [Indigenous Languages and Cultures](#) certificate.

Look for [History courses](#) that offer you the opportunity to broaden your global knowledge and learn about geographic and thematic areas that are new to you.

International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an [International Student Advisor](#).

Consider [applying for an M.A. in History to specialize in fields](#) such as Global History, Postcolonial and Decolonial Thought, and Environmental History.

Get involved with the [Global History Initiative](#).

GET CAREER READY

Grappling with program decisions? Go to [Majors Night](#) or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services.

Explore different careers of interest in the Career Services Resource Area. For more information check out [Career Cruising](#) or by finding and connecting with alumni on [LinkedIn](#).

Start focusing on areas of interest. Research education requirements for careers of interest. If needed, prepare to take any required tests (like the LSAT or GMAT) and get [help thinking about Grad School](#) from Career Services or the [Graduate History Office](#).

Apply to jobs or future education, or make plans for other adventures. Get help from Career Services with [job searching, resumes, interviews, Grad School applications](#), or other decisions.

Apply in the fall for [SSHRC](#) and [OGS](#) scholarships if applying to grad school in Ontario.

CONSIDER A 12-16 MONTH QUIP INTERNSHIP

CONSIDER A 12 MONTH QCA:K APPRENTICESHIP

Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A degree in History can equip you with:

- 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 judgments 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

Career Possibilities

A degree in History can take your career in many directions. Many students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a Master's. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Anthropology
- Archival science
- Genealogical research
- Intelligence analysis
- Library science
- Museum curator
- Policy analyst
- Public administration
- Technical writing

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a

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 Major Map](#) tool.

History



Get started thinking about the future now – where do you want to go after your degree? Having tentative goals (like careers or grad school) while working through your degree can help with short-term decisions about courses and experiences, but also help you keep motivated for success.

Get the help you need

Queen's 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 offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally. Queen's wants you to succeed! Check out the [Student Affairs website](#) for available resources.



Department of History
Watson Hall, Room 212
49 Bader Lane
613-533-2150
queensu.ca/history

QUIP QUEEN'S UNDERGRADUATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

START DATES

in May, September,
or January

POSITIONS

are paid and
full-time

WORK TERMS

are 12-16 months
long

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Graduate with a "Professional Internship" degree
- Learn about current advances, practices and technologies in business and industry.
- Test drive a career, earn a competitive salary, and get real world experience.

ELIGIBILITY

- 2nd or 3rd Year Students
- Minimum GPA of 1.9

WHY QUIP?

- Gain a year of career-related work experience.
- Build network connections.
- Receive support from Queen's staff in job search and during internship.

SAMPLE PAST INTERNSHIPS



For more information, contact quip@queensu.ca or visit the [Program Website](#).

Why study in Kingston?

Since 1841, our community has been more than a collection of bright minds – Queen's has attracted students with an ambitious spirit. Queen's has the highest retention rates, the highest graduation rates, and one of the highest employment rates among recent graduates. We are a research intensive university focused on the undergraduate experience. The BBC has identified Kingston as one of the GREATEST UNIVERSITY TOWNS in the world – and it is often awarded the safest city in Canada. It is a university city at the core; just a quick drive to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and even New York. A university with more clubs per capita than any other university in Canada, and a city with more restaurants per capita than any other city in North America – you will have the experience of a lifetime at Queen's – and graduate with a degree that is globally recognized among the best.

