English MA Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in ENGLISH?

The English Department at Queen's University is a professionally-oriented research department whose faculty members are distinguished by both scholarly prowess and teaching excellence. Students in the MA, MPhil, and the PhD programs take courses that involve a wide range of critical methodologies, historical periods, and literary genres; they also take a pedagogical and professional skills course that ranges from academic counseling to grant applications to mentoring undergraduate students.



The Master's and Doctoral programs in English at Queen's are among the oldest and most prestigious in the country, combining commitment to historical breadth with promotion of methodological and disciplinary innovation. The department's vibrant intellectual community is developed and sustained by the synergies between the knowledge and passion of our distinguished faculty and the ideas and inspirations of our outstanding graduate students.

Our Master's students consistently demonstrate high rates of success in national awards competitions, in achieving entry into doctoral programs, and in





securing employment in fields as varied as editing, publishing, teaching, law, civil service, business, NGO work, and information technologies.

Fields of STUDY

- American Literature
- Canadian Literature
- Gender Studies
- Indigenous Studies
- Literary Theory
- Medieval Literature
- Modernist Literature
- Modern Popular Culture
- Postcolonial Studies
- Renaissance Literature
- Restoration & 18th-Century Literature
- Romantic Literature
- Victorian Literature

We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying, should you be interested in the MA thesis option.

Visit the English 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.

"I have been at Queen's for both my MA & PhD, and I can say it's an outstanding program. The library collections are among the best in the country. The size of the program is ideal [...] and, probably most importantly, the faculty are both accomplished and approachable at the same time."

– Robyn Carruthers, PhD

Program STRUCTURE

The 12-month Master of English is offered in 2 patterns:

- Pattern I: Course work.
 (Recommended standard for an MA in English.)
- Pattern II: Course work and thesis of approximately 15,000 words. (Application required.)





GRADUATE STUDIES AND POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

English MA Map

MASTER OF ARTS (MA)



GETTING STARTED INTERMEDIATE STAGE WRAPPING UP ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC • Start with key priorities like determining a course pattern Complete your coursework Continue your coursework, being alert to final essays that that builds on your passions while covering your historical **GOALS** might be revised into publishable papers. • For thesis-based MA students, complete your thesis. requirements. · For thesis-based MA students, produce the thesis proposal and Consider how your courses might prepare you for eventual initial research and writing for the thesis. doctoral work or other educational and career goals beyond **MAXIMIZE** Attend or present at a graduate conference. · Consider publication options for your research. RESEARCH Start to think about the audiences for your research. **IMPACT** Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) or GRADflix If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for SSHRC and · Attend a major conference in your field, such as the The Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Eighteenth-OGS funding. Century Studies or the Modern Language Association • Expand your research audience through social media such as Convention. Twitter or a blog. Consider putting an article in The Conversation. · Consider being interviewed on the SGSPA radio show Grad chat to talk about your research. Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media **SKILLS AND** · Start keeping an ePortfolio of your skills, experiences, and settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, outlets like the Queen's Journal, CFRC, and the SGSPA Blog. **EXPERIENCE** competencies. networking, and interviews. Get help from a Career Services Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas. • Use a Research Assistant or Teaching Assistant position to workshop. Serve on departmental, faculty, or university committees. Talk develop your research or teaching skills. · Check out opportunities for extra training through CTL, School to the Graduate English Society for tips on getting involved. • For help with teaching, get support from the Centre for of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs Professional Check out professional development workshops from SGSPA Teaching and Learning. Enrol in SGS902 or the PUTL Certificate development, Mitacs, or other sources to boost your skills. professional development. for more professional development in teaching and learning. Investigate internships from MITACS and other sources. **ENGAGE WITH YOUR** Explore how you can connect with your community through · Participate in your graduate and professional community Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through Linkedin, the Queen's Alumni experiential opportunities on- and off-campus. through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, COMMUNITY organizing conferences, and research groups. Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Consider whether you wish to take the "Literary Internship" as Get help from a Career Services workshop one of your courses. Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by Consider joining professional associations like the taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted · Consider volunteering with different community organizations, by QUIC and Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre. ACCUTE, the Modern Language Association, and more. such as Literacy Kingston, Kingston WritersFest. • If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an International Student Advisor LAUNCH YOUR Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help Participate in hiring committees and attend job talks. Start • Explore different careers of interest by using LinkedIn to CAREER by taking a Career Services workshop or meeting with a career connect with Queen's alumni. Check out Career Cruising for focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your CV or resume educator and coach. Check out the Career Resource Area for more information. for potential positions of interest. Get help from Career advice on various career options.

scholarships

• If you are considering a PhD, explore programs of interest

reach out to faculty, and apply to PhD programs and external

Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A graduate degree in English can equip you with:

- 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

Career Possibilities

A Master's degree in English 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:

- Business
- Civil service
- Editing
- Information technologies
- Law
- NGO work
- Publishing
- Teaching

Services with job searching, resumes, and interviews.

Goals.

Find impactful work that aligns with your values using the

Queen's Career Guide to the UN Sustainable Development

Writing

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

market websites.

Start reading publications like University Affairs and the

Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour

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 Professional Development Plan (PDP) 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 <u>SGSPA website</u> for available resources.

What is the community like?

At Queen's, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a closeknit 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.

Graduate Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- · Honours Bachelor of Arts degree.
- Grade requirements: minimum average of B+ over all 4 years of undergraduate study, with a cumulative minimum average of A- in 10 full-year English Literature courses (or equivalent).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Statement of Interest
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The following minimum scores are required: TOEFL (paper-based): 550, (2) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30), for a total of 88/120 (applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score), or (3) IELTS: 7.5 (academic module overall band score). These tests must have been taken within a year of the date of pre-application.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES

- Application due: January 15 for all documentation and application.
- Notification of acceptance: March and April.

Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.

What about FUNDING?

Students are usually funded through a combination of internal fellowships, teaching assistantships, bursaries, and scholarships as part of the basic funding package.

Because funding packages are not expected to cover all study and living costs, we strongly encourage all students to apply for external funding from OGS, SSHRC, and other sources. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' information on awards and scholarships.



Department of English Literature and Creative Writing

Jesse Sibanda, Graduate Assistant Watson Hall 420 (613) 533-6000 ext. 77015 j.sibanda@queensu.ca

