Gender Studies PhD Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

GRAD MAP FOR PhD STUDENTS



Why GRADUATE STUDIES in GENDER STUDIES?

Gender Studies opens doors for students to address growing concerns for inequity, equity, and justice across national and global society. Gender Studies is a space where our theories and our practices pay attention to the differences and connections between diverse peoples worldwide.

As an interdisciplinary field, Gender Studies helps students take up social science, humanities, arts, and natural science methods and connect them to produce innovative new knowledge. Graduates of the PhD in Gender Studies at Queen's work in such fields as education, health, law, public policy, social research, social work, media, art, and community organizing. Gender Studies prepares students for both academic and nonacademic careers.



Why QUEEN'S?

The four-year Gender Studies PhD program sustains our program focus on critical race, gender, and sexuality studies while offering advanced training in applications of Gender Studies research within work for social change.

Gender Studies at Queen's distinctively foregrounds critical race conceptual frameworks at all levels of our undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Students examine gender, our key category of analysis, in terms



of its interdependence with race, class, nation, sexuality, disability, age, religion, colonialism, and globalization. Students conduct research in Canada and internationally and articulate their scholarship with local and global action for social justice. Students produce scholarship that is directly applicable to work for social change and to a wide variety of academic and nonacademic careers.

Program STRUCTURE

The PhD in Gender Studies is a four-year program. Full-time PhD students complete three (3.0 credit) required courses, one (3.0 credit) elective course, one (0.0 credit) Proseminar course, and the (3.0 credit) PhD Practicum. Students advance to candidacy for the PhD after completing all coursework, syllabus, and practicum requirements and having successfully defended their dissertation proposal.

RESEARCH Areas

- Activism and Alliance Building
- Anti-Colonial Thought
- Anti-Racist Feminisms
- **Black Geographies**
- Colonialisms
- Creative Emancipatory Work
- Critical History

- Diaspora
- Ethnography
- Gender and Poverty
- Globalization, Work and Social Justice
- Health Studies
- Indigenous Studies
- Memory and Trauma
- Popular Culture
- **Queer Studies**
- **Trans Studies**
- Transnationalism and Diaspora

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

Visit the Gender Studies 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, area of research interest, and related experience.



GRADUATE STUDIES AND POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

queensu.ca/grad-postdoc

Gender Studies PhD Map

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD)

YEAR I



ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS

- Key priorities include your relationship with your supervisor, forming your committee, and coursework.
- Meet early with your supervisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research/ occupational goals, timelines, and any required accommodation plans.
- Attend and participate in graduate seminars.

YEAR III YEAR III

- Priorities include completing your comprehensive exam, practicum, and research proposal.
- Set up regular meetings with your supervisor to discuss progress and obstacles to timely completion.
- Find your way through the academic process with the help of School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs (SGSPA) professional development and the SGSPA website.
- Continue to meet regularly with your supervisor, review research progress, and write your dissertation. Check out the SGSPA writing camps, such as Dissertation on the Lake.
- Use conference presentations to create, discuss, and explore ways to disseminate research findings.
- Begin discussion of potential thesis defence examiners.

YEAR IV & TRANSITIONING

- Plan date of thesis submission for examination.
- Present your research to graduate students and faculty or at conferences and work with supervisor to prepare for defence.
- Review submission and examination quidelines.
- Secure necessary oral defence accommodations.

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT

- Think about audiences for your research.
- Complete CORE online module on research ethics if doing research regarding sensitive topics.
- · Apply to SSHRC, OGS, and other funding.
- Attend conferences in your field.

- Consider publication options for your research, such as Canadian Women's Studies, Gender, Place and Culture, and Atlantis.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.
- Apply for the Graduate Dean's Travel Grant for Doctoral Field Research.
- Continue to present at conferences.
- Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) or GRADflix competition.
- Contact the Queen's Media Centre for guidance on speaking to news outlets about your work. List yourself on the Arts and Science University Research website.
- Continue to attend conferences such as Congress, the National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference, or the Canadian Association of African Studies Annual Conference, and connect with scholars in your field and with community partners.
- Continue public outreach through social media and the Queen's Media Centre.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Serve on departmental, faculty, or university committees. Talk to the Graduate Visual Culture Association for tips on getting involved.
- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS or media outlets like the Queen's Journal, CFRC, and the SGSPA Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory.
- Use a Teaching Assistant or Research Assistant position to develop your skills and experience.
- Hone skills for non-academic employment by continuing involvement on committees.
- For help with teaching, get support from the Centre for Teaching and Learning. Enrol in SGS902 or the PUTL Certificate for more professional development in teaching.
- Attend workshops put on by the Department, such as the Professional and Academic Development Program (PADP)
- Begin teaching as a departmental Teaching Fellow.
- Investigate internships from MITACS and other sources. Find opportunities for extra training through CTL, SGSPA professional development, or other sources to boost your skills.
- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QUIC.
- 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.

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

- Consider volunteering with different community organizations, such as the Reelout Arts Project and Queen's Students for Literacy.
- Join the Department's Fundraising or Social Committee, or participate in organizing Context and Meaning.
- Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups.
- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through LinkedIn, the Queen's Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop.
- Consider joining professional associations like the Women's and Gender Studies et Recherches Féministes or Sexuality Studies Association.
- Continue targeted networking with people working in careers of interest.

LAUNCH YOUR

- Finding career fit starts with knowing yourself.
 Take a Career Services career planning workshop or meet with a career educator and coach for help.
- Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites.
- Start building your teaching portfolio including student evaluations, and seeking mentorship.
- Explore different careers of interest by using LinkedIn to connect with Queen's alumni. For more information check out Career Cruising.
- Investigate requirements for professional positions or other opportunities related to careers of interest.
- Start putting together your resume and begin your job search plan.
- Start focusing on non-academic areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your industry resume and begin your job search plan.
- Find impactful work that aligns with your values using the Queen's Career Guide to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Build connections with faculty outside of your department. Pursue interviews for faculty positions and apply for post-doc fellowships and positions.
- Apply to jobs or make plans for other adventures. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, and interviews.
- If considering jobs abroad, research possible immigration regulations. If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an International Student Advisor.

Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A graduate degree in Gender Studies 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

Career Possibilities

A PhD in Gender Studies can take your career in many directions. In Canada, less than 40% of all PhDs will work in post-secondary education – the majority will work in industry, government, or non-profits.

- Advocacy
- Advertising
- · Arts administration
- Community/social services
- Education
- Ethics
- HealthcareHuman resources
- Immigration Services
- International Development
- · Journalism/media
- Labour/Industrial Relations
- Law
- · Mediation and Labour Relations
- Public Policy
- Research
- Social Work
- · Student Affairs

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



CAREER

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. To make your own custom map, use the My Grad Map tool: careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps.

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.

Queen's

GENDER STUDIES

Graduate Program Office (613) 533-6000 ext. 77980 gndsgrad@queensu.ca queensu.ca/gnds

Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An MA degree from a recognized university in gender studies or cognate fields (women's studies, feminist studies, sexuality studies) or in another field with evidence of a prior focus on gender.
- A minimum of B+ in the last two years of university study.
- Consideration will be given to practitioners of gender studies in the public or private sectors who hold a BAH/BA and who demonstrate exceptional and relevant professional experience and achievement in an appropriate field.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- · Letters of recommendation
- Transcripts
- Potential faculty supervisor
- Statement of research interests
- · Current CV
- Writing sample (8-10 pages)
- 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: (1) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30). Applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score, or (2) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score and a 7.0 for each test band), or (3) PTE Academics: 65, or (4) CAEL CE -70 (minimum overall score).

KEY DATES & DEADLINES

- Application due: December 1st for early consideration; Final application deadline is February 1st.
- **Notification of acceptance:** Offers of admission will be made following the early consideration deadline and final application deadline.

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

What about FUNDING?

Doctoral students are currently guaranteed minimum funding of \$20,000 per year for years 1-4. Funding package may be delivered in one or more of the following ways: internal awards and fellowships, external funding (if available), teaching fellowships, teaching assistantships, and research assistantships.

Apply for external funding from the Ontario Graduate Scholarship, SSHRC, and other sources. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' information on awards and scholarships.



