# Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies PhD Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

# Why GRADUATE STUDIES in SCREEN CULTURES AND CURATORIAL STUDIES?

Housed in the state-of-the-art Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts, and the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, the Master's program in Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies is unique, linking adjacent disciplines, making it one of its kind.

The study of Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies, and film & media production are inter-linked, providing students with a range of course options and professional opportunities, including academia, arts management, programming, media production, and curation.

# Why QUEEN'S?

The program's three strongly interconnected areas of focus, studies, research creation, and curation, are designed to stimulate creative dialogue in ways that open exciting points of access to multiple disciplinary formations. There is no comparable program in any other film, media, cinema, or communication MA program in all of Ontario.

Visiting scholars, filmmakers, artists, and curators provide opportunities for practice-based learning. Blending academia with creative skills allows our graduates to implement their new found knowledge in the gallery, festival, museum, and beyond.

Exhibition space is available to students at the Art & Media Lab in The Isabel Bader Center and the Union Gallery for curatorial projects; these spaces allow students to have an exclusive platform to bring learning to life.

The program is uniquely offered in partnership with the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, a university and public art museum with physical display space paralleled by an off-site and active online program presence.



Museums without Walls conference exhibition in the Art and Media Lab at the Isabel Centre for the Performing Arts. Photo: Bojana Babic

The slate of courses offered by this partnership provides robust opportunities to participate in and benefit from experiential, applied learning.

# **Program STRUCTURE**

The structure of this program is designed to maximize flexibility allowing students to do traditional academic research, engage in creative / community projects, and develop professional profiles suitable to a wide variety of academic and non-academic career pathways.

PhD Program requirements:

- 4 years of full-time studies
- 3 core courses
- 2 elective courses
- Qualifying exam
- · Thesis or Portfolio



Sunny Kerr, Adjunct faculty, and Agnes Etherington Art Centre's Curator of Contemporary Art, leads SCCS student through a tour of the exhibition Let's Talk About Sex, bb. Photo: Tim Forbes

Visit the Film and Media 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.

# **RESEARCH Areas**

- Animation Theory and Practice Archives
- · Curation and Remediation
- AR / VR / AI
- Critical Curatorial Studies
- · Environmental Media
- Experimental Media
- Feminist, Critical Race, Indigenous, and LGBTQ2+ Screen Cultures
- Historical and Contemporary Film and Media Theory
- Moving Image Research Creation (Narrative, Documentary, Experimental, Animation, and Open Media)
- National Cinemas, Cultural Institutions, and Curatorial Events



GRADUATE STUDIES AND POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

queensu.ca/grad-postdoc

# Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies PhD Map



**Knowledge & Workplace** 

A graduate degree in Screen

versatile skills, such as:

Study more about

historiography; research-

a collaborative worker.

audiences.

media.

practice.

Cultures and Curatorial Studies

can equip you with valuable and

Knowledge and technical skills

Learn how to create innovative, interdisciplinary, and informed

creation; archives and exhibition;

on-line curation; digital media

practice: images, activism, and

the real; animation theory and

Awareness, an understanding

social responsibility, responsible

research, and cultural sensitivity.

Professionalism in all aspects of

work, research, and interactions.

of sound ethical practices,

**Independence** and experience as

in multiple forms for diverse

Skills

TURES AND CURATORIAL STUDIES (PhD)

DOCTOR OF SCREEN CUL
ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS
MANIMIZE
MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT
DIW D
BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE
ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY
COMMONTY
LAUNCH YOUR
CAREER

# YEAR I

# YEAR II

# YEAR III

# YEAR IV & TRANSITIONING

# Key priorities in the fall and winter include completing your coursework, and attending the Professional Development Seminar and

- Workshop with visiting artists and academics. Meet early with your supervisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research/ occupational goals, and timelines.
- With your supervisor begin your list of required readings for your Qualifying Exam.
- Complete your Qualifying Exam and PhD Proposal defense. Embark on your substantive research in the summer.
- Find your way through the academic process with the help of School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs (SGSPA) professional development or Student Academic Success
- · Set up regular meetings with your supervisor to discuss progress and obstacles to timely
- 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
- Use conference presentations to create, discuss, and explore ways to disseminate research findings.
- Begin discussion of potential thesis defence examiners.

- 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 guidelines.
- Submit dissertation for supervisionary review.
- · Discuss career pathways, references letters, and publication options with your supervisor.

- · 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.

- · Present your work through professional associations, topic conferences, or at graduate
- · Expand your research audience through social media like LinkedIn, a blog or podcast.
- 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.
- Apply to film festivals when applicable.
- Continue to attend conferences and connect with scholars in your field and with community
- Continue public outreach through social media and the Queen's Media Centre.
- Consider being interviewed on the SGSPA radio show Grad chat to talk about your research.
- · Consider putting an article in The Conversation.

- · Serve on the department steering committee, faculty, or university committees. Talk to the student caucus 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.
- Consider exhibiting your work at the Agnes Etherington Arts Centre, Images Festival, or attending the events at the Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts.
- Investigate internships from MITACS and other sources.
- Find opportunities for extra training through CTL, SGSPA professional development, Mitacs, or other sources to boost your skills.
- Prepare for work or studies in a multicultural environment by taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QUIC and Four Directions.
- Begin teaching as a departmental Teaching
- 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.

· Join professional associations like the Film

Continue targeted networking with people

working in careers of interest. Join groups on

LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of

Studies Association of Canada.

interest in Film and Media.

# **Career Possibilities**

A PhD in Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies will give you a solid foundation to take your career in many directions, such as:

- Academia and teaching
- Film production
- Galleries
- Media
- Museums
- Non-profit agencies
- Publishing houses

work after graduation.

Social policy agencies

smooth transition to the world of

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

- Consider volunteering with community organizations, film festivals, museums, and arts centres around the country.
- Participate in the workshops offered by the Film and Media Department as well the Agnes Etherington Arts Centre to learn more.
- Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, or by organizing conferences.
- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through LinkedIn, the Queen's Alumni Association, Get help from a Career Services workshop.
- professional associations, and at conferences.

Start putting together your resume and begin

your job search plan. Attend industry fairs and job talks. Research academic careers of interest. Craft your CV

and job application materials.

- If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an International Student Advisor.
- 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 program. 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.

- 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.
- Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites.
- · Start building your teaching portfolio.
- Explore different careers of interest by using LinkedIn to connect with Queen's alumni. Check out Career Cruising for more information.
- Investigate requirements for professional positions or other opportunities related to careers of interest.

# 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 SGSPA website 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**

- MA or MFA degree from a recognized university in film or media studies or cognate fields (e.g. communications, cultural studies, film and media production, visual art, art history, popular culture).
- · Minimum grade of A- in MA or MFA.

## ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Demonstrated proficiency in a language other than English (if needed).
- 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 deadlines are posted on our How to Apply page, at this web address: https://www.queensu.ca/filmandmedia/graduate/how-apply

# What about FUNDING?

The current minimum funding guarantee for Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies PhD students is \$24,000 per year, throughout years 1-4. The funding package may be comprised of Queen's graduate awards, teaching assistantships, and named internal fellowships.

We 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.



Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts. Photo: DoubleSpace Photography

