

Art Conservation MAC Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

Why Graduate Studies in Art Conservation?

Art conservation is an exciting and challenging multidisciplinary field involving the examination, interpretation, analysis and conservation of cultural, historic, and artistic objects. Professional conservators and conservation scientists must rely on their knowledge of both the humanities and the sciences to understand the creation and production of material culture in past and present contexts to ensure its preservation for the future.

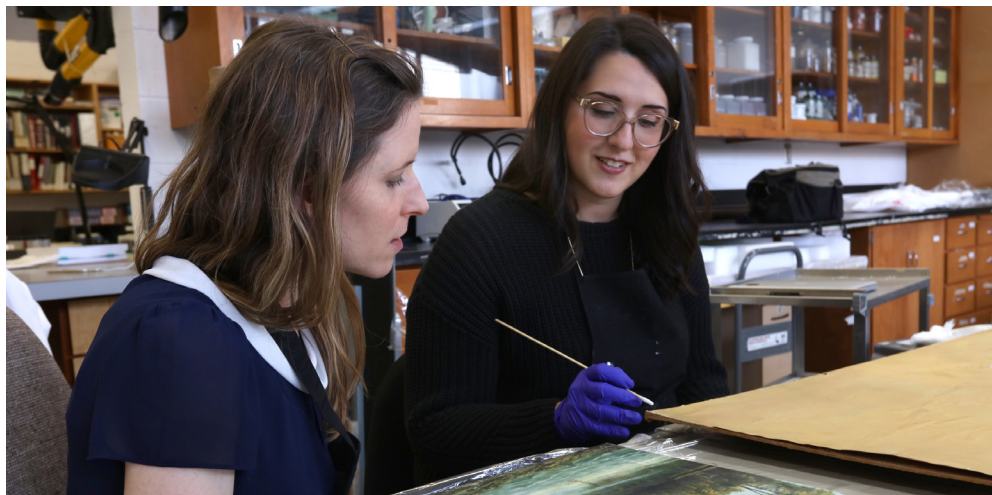
Why Queen's?

Queen's University offers Canada's only Master's degree program in Art Conservation. Projects and research topics are individually designed to suit the background and interests of students and faculty. Students have opportunities to work with humanities, science, and engineering departments at Queen's, and may undertake projects with museums, galleries, archives, the Canadian Conservation Institute, and industrial partners.

Program Structure

There are two possible streams within the Art Conservation Program:

- **Treatment stream:** A four-term program of theoretical and practical study on campus, advanced lecture courses, lab work in conservation of heritage objects, a research project, and two 12-week off-campus summer internships.
- **Research stream:** A two-year, full-



"The instruction and education I received at Queen's has given me unique treatment and research experience that allows me to be confident when challenging myself as a conservator. The co-operations and deep understanding between all the students and the instructors created a supportive and irreplaceable learning environment that I am very thankful to have been a part of." – Kaslyne O'Connor, MAC

time research program is offered to science and engineering graduates, leading to a career in conservation science. A one-year, mid-career research stream is also available to practicing conservators with at least five years of experience.

Treatment-stream students need to apply to one of the three treatment streams. Research students should visit the [Art Conservation Program website](#) to learn more about faculty members and their research areas. We encourage you to contact a potential supervisor before applying.

Treatment Streams

- Conservation of paintings
- Conservation of artifacts
- Conservation of paper, photographic materials, and new media

Research Areas

- Degradation and conservation of materials
- History of technology
- Other conservation-related areas
- Imaging Science



Art Conservation MAC Map

MASTER OF ART CONSERVATION (MAC)

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 [SGSPA website](#) for available resources.

What is the community like?

Queen's offers graduate students from every discipline a close-knit intellectual community where they can learn, discover, and build lasting connections. With more than 130 graduate programs across 50+ departments and research centres, students benefit from world-class scholars, prize-winning professional development, generous funding packages, and life in the historic waterfront city of Kingston. The campus sits at the heart of Kingston, just a 10-minute walk from downtown's shops, restaurants, and waterfront, and is deeply integrated with the local community. For more on 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

- Four-year Honours Bachelor's degree in humanities, sciences or engineering.
- One full-year, post-secondary course in fine art studio or workshop practice.
- Three terms of chemistry lectures and labs at the university level, including organic chemistry.
- Applicants with a humanities background must have a minimum of five full-year courses in art history, ethnology, archaeology, or equivalent.
- Applicants with a science background must have a minimum of two full-year courses in art history, ethnology, archaeology, or equivalent.
- **Grade requirements:** minimum B+ average (3.3 GPA).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Good visual sensitivity and manual skills.
- Experience in conservation is highly recommended.
- If English is not a first language, nor was the language of instruction in undergraduate studies, prospective students must meet English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening as part of the application process, and before final acceptance is granted, as per School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' regulations.

KEY DATES, DEADLINES, AND ACCEPTANCES

- **Application due:** January 15th.
- **Interviews:** Held in March.
- **Number Admitted:** Approximately 12 students are admitted for the Treatment Stream and 1-2 admitted for the Research Stream per year.

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

What about Funding?

Funding is available through Queen's Graduate Awards and other internal awards. Some students may qualify for teaching assistantships in their second year. For more information on awards and scholarships, consult the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' website.

