

Art History PhD Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

Why Graduate Studies in Art History?

The Queen's Art History program is strongly committed to mentoring and to the training of graduate students in a variety of interdisciplinary approaches, methodologies, and issues, including the technical examination of art, gender studies, critical theory, cultural representation, curatorial studies, and the relationships among art, literature, and science. The program offers a wide range of courses that delve into case studies relating to broader issues.

Why Queen's?

The Art History program at Queen's maintains close ties with the [Agnes Etherington Art Centre](#) on campus, which features innovative exhibitions, programs, and high-quality collections encompassing European paintings of the Baroque era, smaller concentrations of the art of Indigenous peoples of North America, decorative arts, costume and heritage quilts of the region. In addition, the gallery holds a fine collection of the art of West and Central Africa.

The Queen's Art History program shares a department with Canada's only Master program in Art Conservation, and our graduate students have the opportunity to take lecture courses in Art Conservation and work with Art Conservation Faculty.

Graduate students in Art History carry out internships locally and abroad, recently at such institutions as the National Gallery of Canada, the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and the Louvre in Paris. The program offers opportunities



"Choosing Art History at Queen's was one of the best decisions I have ever made. Attending Queen's was a positive and nurturing experience, made possible because of an advisor and faculty members who were active scholars, thoughtful pedagogues and caring mentors." – John Potvin, PhD

to teach, has an outstanding record of supporting students to win major grants, and offers opportunities to participate in a student-organized peer-reviewed interdisciplinary international conference. Queen's Art History Ph.D. students have access to generous funding to travel and carry out onsite research.

Visit the [Art History 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 him/her and tell them about your interest in graduate work, area of research interest and related experience. This email correspondence is also an opportunity for you to find out if the faculty member is accepting new graduate students to supervise.

Program Structure

PhD (4 years): course work, demonstration of a reading knowledge of language(s) (depending on the topic), field essays and field exams, thesis proposal, thesis.

Research Areas

- Medieval art and architecture, neo-Medievalism
- 14th to 18th-century Southern and Central European arts
- 17th-century Dutch and Flemish art
- 19th to 20th-century Scandinavian art
- History of photography
- Modernism
- Global contemporary art
- Indigenous cultures
- Art and Visual Cultures of Africa and its diaspora
- Canadian visual culture
- Global cultural contact
- Technical art history
- History of conservation and cultural heritage preservation
- History of collecting and museums
- Curatorial studies
- Art and medicine
- Design and material culture in a globalizing world

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

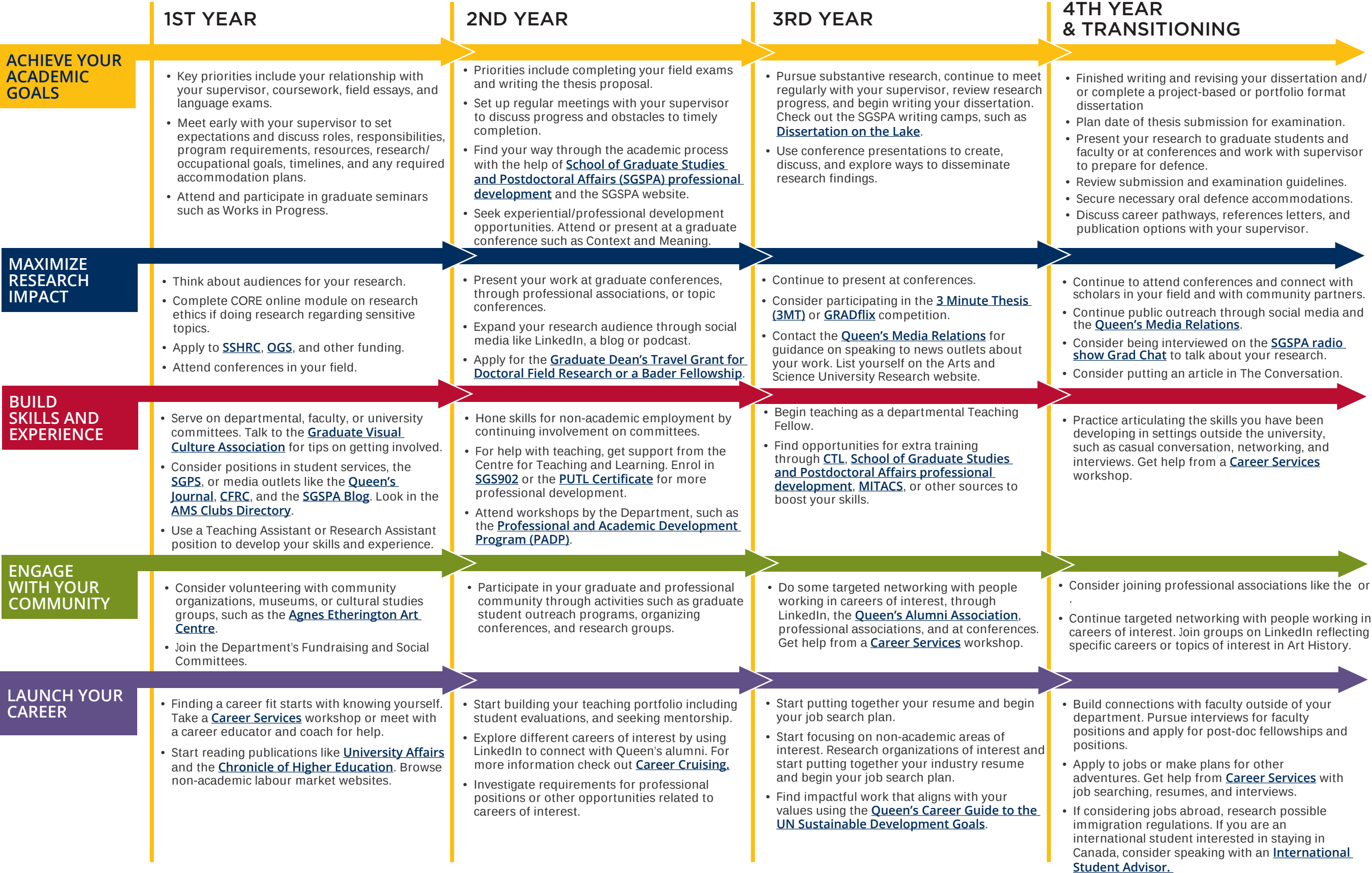


Art History PhD Map

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD)

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.



Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A graduate degree in Art History can equip you with:

- Knowledge and technical skills in multiple forms for diverse audiences
- 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 and 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 degree in Art History can take your career in many directions. Our PhD students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Academia and teaching
- Archives
- Auction houses
- Commercial galleries
- Museum, curatorial and cultural policy positions
- Writing and publishing

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

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

- MA in Art History or a related discipline with an A average in the primary courses.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Curriculum vitae
- Writing sample
- Statement of research interest
- 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

- **Application due:** January 10th.
- **Notification of acceptance:** mid-March.

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

What about Funding?

Currently, doctoral students are guaranteed minimum funding of \$25,000 per year for years 1-4. The funding package may be comprised of Queen's Graduate Awards, Teaching Assistantships, and named internal Fellowships. Many doctoral students in their 3rd year are eligible for a Bader Fellowship, worth up to \$30,000.

We encourage all students to apply for external funding from OGS, SSHRC, and other sources. For more information on awards and scholarships, consult the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' website.

