

History MA Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

Why Graduate Studies in History?

Consider a graduate degree in History for all it has to offer: well-developed skills in critical reading, writing, and research and, perhaps even more importantly, engagement with oneself and the world we all inhabit. Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing research process that provides the community with ways of understanding natural, cultural, imaginative, social, and technological phenomena.

Today's employment marketplace seeks people who are critically informed, culturally literate, capable of synthesizing information, and adept at creating and managing knowledge-based projects. Study History and you will acquire such skills.

Why Queen's?

The Department of History at Queen's offers a challenging and innovative graduate program, in established and new fields of historical inquiry. Our students are taught primarily in small all-graduate seminars, in which they engage in a lively, critical examination of historical writing, and delve into their own research. We are a mid-sized university and department, and are therefore able to create for our students a rich, supportive learning community. Our Graduate History Students' Association fosters a vibrant community through a variety of social events and professional development workshops.

Program Structure

We have two MA program patterns. All incoming full-time students must



Students participate in the departmental seminar series and host the biannual McGill-Queen's Graduate History conference that draws students from across Canada and the US.

complete in their first year of study 6 term-length graduate courses or the equivalent.

Pattern I (Thesis): Students may apply in December of their first year if they wish to complete a thesis. The recommended length of the thesis is 100 pp., maximum length 150 pp. The Pattern I MA is designed to be completed within 12-20 months from initial registration.

Pattern II (Cognate): Students not in Pattern I complete a cognate essay instead. The recommended length of the cognate is 40-50 pp., maximum length 50 pp. The Pattern II MA is designed to be completed within 12 months from initial registration.

Research Areas

Besides its traditional strengths in Canadian and European history, the department has strengths in several geographically-defined areas including Asia, Africa and Latin America, the British Imperial and Transatlantic worlds, as well as the following thematic fields:

- Childhood and Youth
- Cultural History
- Economic History
- Environmental History

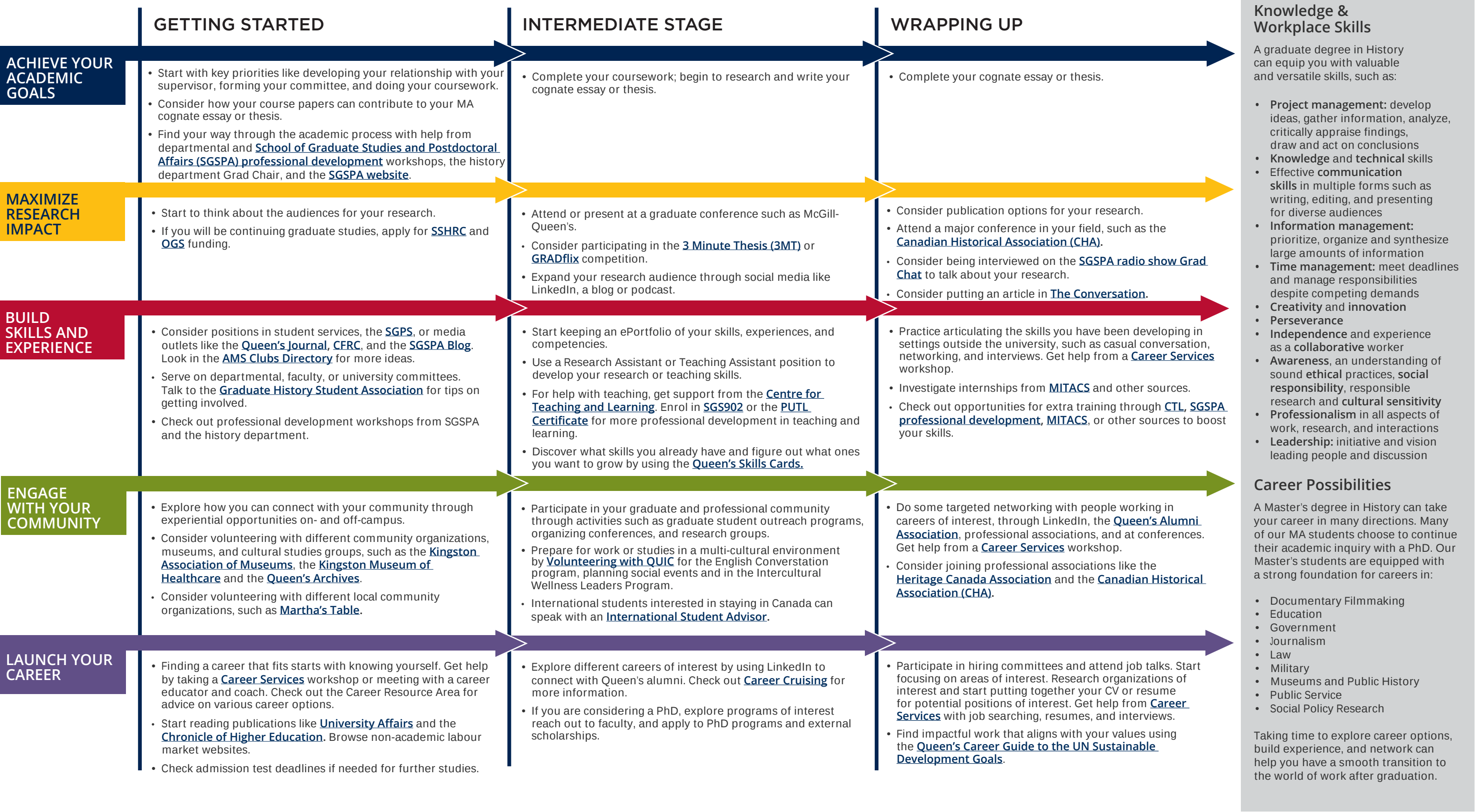
- Gender, Sexuality, and Women
- Global and Transnational History
- Historiography
- Imperial, Colonial, and Postcolonial
- Indigenous History
- Intellectual History
- Legal History
- Migration and Diasporas
- Politics and the State
- Public Policy
- Race
- Religion
- Science, Medicine, and Technology
- Social History
- War and Conflict

We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying. Visit the [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 them and tell them about your interest in graduate work and related experience.



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

- Minimum second-class standing in final two years of an Honours BA program in History from a recognized university (76-79%, 3.3/4.3 GPA).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Writing sample and two page proposal.
- 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: Third week of January.

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

What about Funding?

The Department of History at Queen's provides funding for all MA students. Students receive financial support from a variety of sources including Queen's Graduate and Academic Excellence Awards, external awards, and Teaching Assistantships.

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.



MA Career Outcomes in the Humanities

Council of Graduate Schools and Educational Testing Service. (2012). Pathways Through Graduate School and Into Careers. Princeton, NJ: Educational Testing Service.