

# Religious Studies MA Map

## Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

### Why Graduate Studies in Religious Studies?

Religion plays a major role in shaping and influencing various cultures and historical and political movements around the world. Understanding religious traditions and their impact on diverse modern issues is vital preparation for building a career in the global marketplace. Religious Studies involves, among other things, examining the history of religious traditions, comparing ideas and values, and understanding the place and function of religion in society, including varieties of secularism. Students of religion investigate why people are religious, where religion comes from, and how it can be analyzed.

### Why Queen's?

Our MA in Religious Studies equips you for careers involving:

**Religious literacy:** students gain exposure to religious diversity, and tools for assessing the impact of religion today and in history.

**Research skills and information literacy:** students learn methods and theories for analyzing complex information and designing research studies.

**Communication skills:** students get professional development in expressing their own points of view effectively, and publishing their work in academic and popular media.

### Topics: Religion and...

- Decolonization
- Diaspora
- Ecology



"As a student at Queen's School of Religion I had the opportunity to not only explore challenging concepts, theories, and histories from an interdisciplinary perspective, I also developed and tested my own skills in the 'real world' by planning and running a conference addressing the Truth and Reconciliation's Call to Action #6, which allowed me to mobilize knowledge, learn about the practical side to academic event planning, and engage closely with community members." –Kacey Dool, MA

- Ethics
- Gender
- Global Development
- Politics in the Middle East
- Popular Culture
- Public Policy
- Race
- Science
- Social Justice
- Sport
- Violence

- Secularity Studies
- South Asian Studies

Visit the [School of Religion website](#) to read faculty profiles. Contact the Graduate Coordinator to discuss your research interests before applying.

### Program Structure

The Master's in Religious Studies is a 12-month program: students take one core course and two elective courses in each of the fall and winter terms, a professional development course, then write a Master's Research Essay over the summer.

Students are required to attend faculty colloquiums and visiting speaker presentations, and are strongly encouraged to participate in conferences.

### Traditions and Areas:

- Black Religions
- Christianity
- Greco-Roman Religions
- Indigenous Knowledges
- Islamic Studies
- Jewish Studies
- New Religious Movements

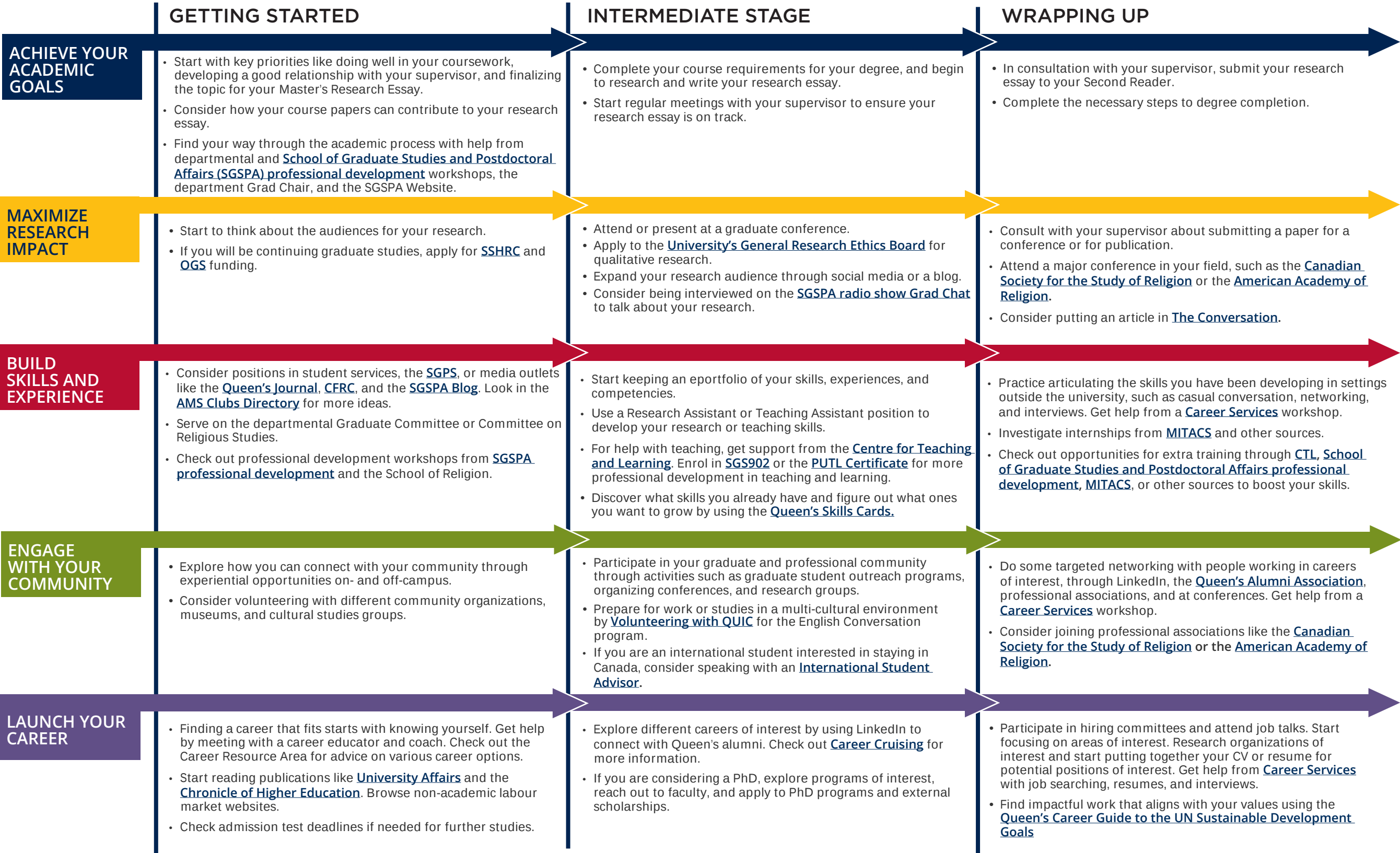


# Religious Studies MA Map

MASTER OF ARTS (MA)

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](https://careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps).



Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A graduate degree in Religious Studies can equip you with:

- Knowledge and technical 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 Master's degree in Religious Studies can take your career in many directions. Many of our MA students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Academia and teaching
- Any setting which values an understanding of multi-culturalism and diversity
- International development work
- Immigration
- Journalism
- Public policy research and analysis

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

- 4-year Honours Bachelor's degree in Religious Studies (or equivalent).
- **Grade requirements:** minimum B+ cumulative average.

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Writing sample of work completed for a previous course.
- 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:** February 1st.

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

## What about Funding?

M.A. students in Religious Studies currently receive minimum funding of \$18,000 per year. Our funding package includes internal and external awards, and teaching and research assistantships. Some funding assistance is also available to participate in conferences outside of Queen's.

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.

