

Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies

PhD Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

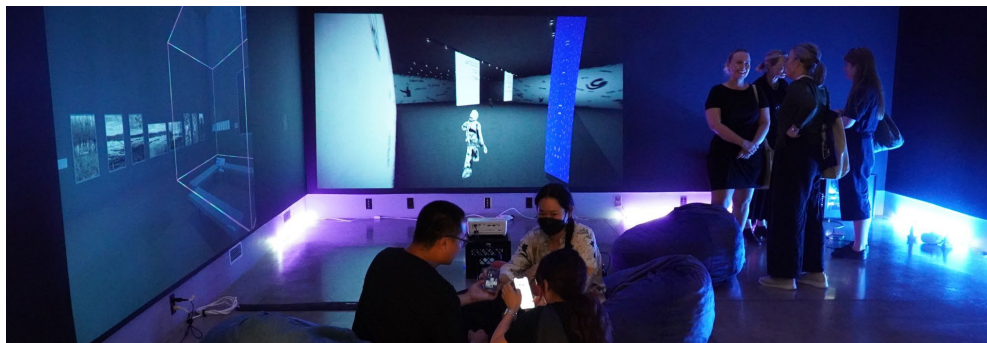
Why Graduate Studies in Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies ?

Housed in the state-of-the-art Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts and the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, the PhD program in Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies (PhD in SCCS) links adjacent disciplines, making it one of its kind. Our PhD program in SCCS links the study of screen cultures and curatorial practices with film and media production. It provides students with a range of course options and professional opportunities in 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 PhD 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.



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

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. The slate of courses offered by this partnership provide 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

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
- AR, VR, AI Cultures
- Critical Curatorial Studies
- Curation and Remediation
- Environmental Media
- Experimental Media
- Film, Media, Screen Cultures Archives
- 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



Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies PhD Map

DOCTOR OF SCREEN CULTURES AND CURATORIAL STUDIES (PhD)



Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A graduate degree in Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies can equip you with:

- Knowledge and technical skills** in multiple forms for diverse audiences.
- Innovative, interdisciplinary, and informed** media production, curation, and study skills.
- Competence in historiography, research creation, archival work, exhibition, curation, digital media practice, activism, and animation theory and practice.
- Ample experience in **collaborative and independent projects**
- Solid understanding of ethical research practices, social responsibility, and cultural sensitivity.
- Professionalism** in all aspects of work and research as well in interpersonal interactions.

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
- Social policy agencies

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

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. 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 as well as resources ranging from help with [academics](#) and [careers](#) to physical, emotional, and spiritual services through the [Wellness Centre](#).

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 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 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 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 \$25,000 per year throughout years 1-4. The funding package may be comprised of Queen's Graduate Award (QGA), teaching and/or research assistantships, internal fellowships and scholarships.

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



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