

# Art Conservation MAC Map

## Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

GRAD MAP FOR MAC STUDENTS →

### WHERE ART MEETS SCIENCE

#### 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.

*"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



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-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 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

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.

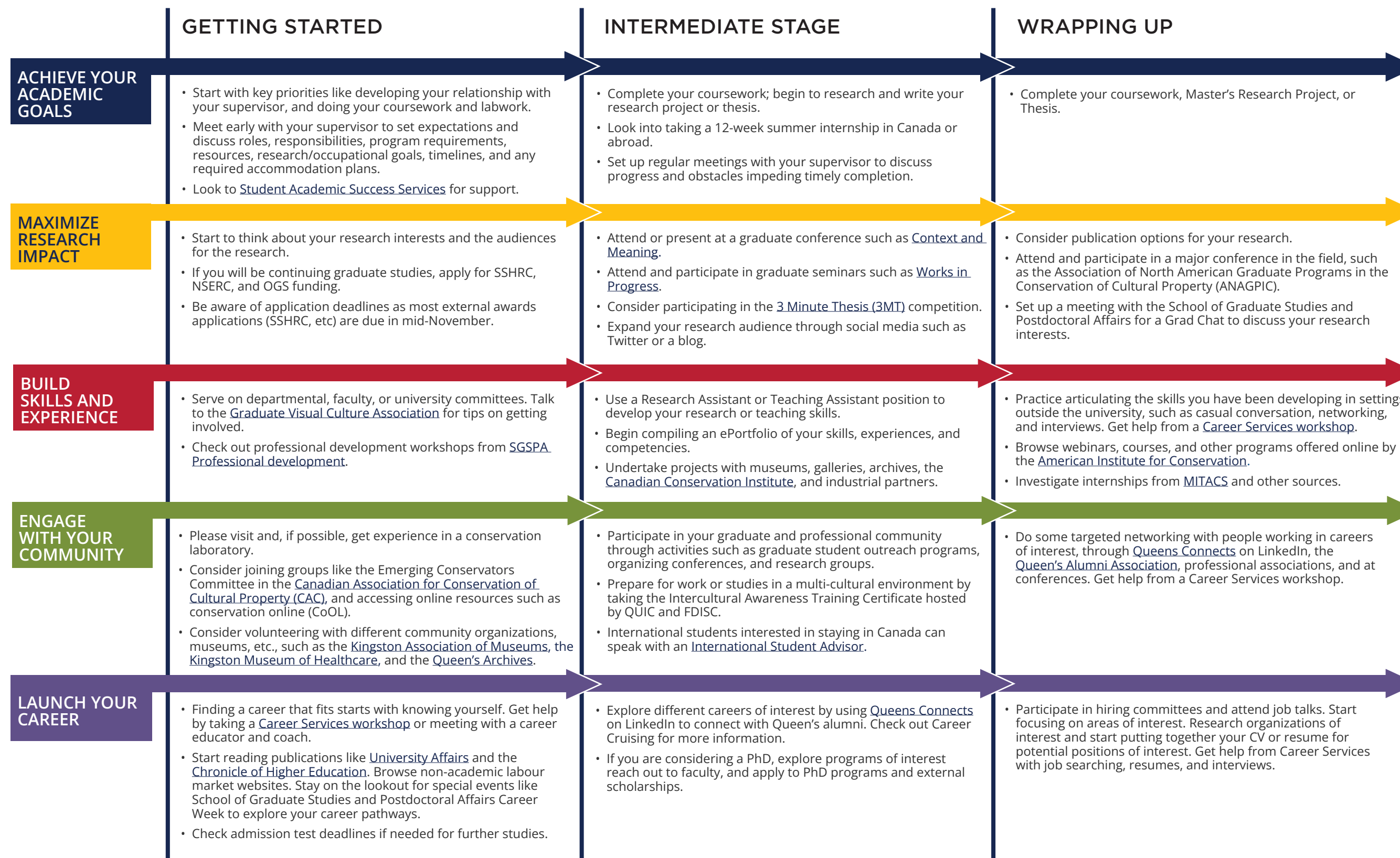


GRADUATE STUDIES AND  
POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

2023-2024

# Art Conservation MAC Map

MASTER OF ART CONSERVATION (MAC)



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A graduate degree in Art Conservation can equip you with:

- **Knowledge and technical skills**
- **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 and analyze information, 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

## WHERE CAN I GO?

A Master's degree in Art Conservation can take your career in many directions. Some of our MAC students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Archives
- Art galleries
- Conservation research institutions
- Museums
- Other cultural institutions

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. The map just offers suggestions – you don't have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the [My Grad Map](#) tool.



# 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 [Individual Development Plan \(IDP\)](#) 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?

At Queen's, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a close-knit intellectual community. You will find friends, peers and support among the graduate students enrolled in Queen's more than 130 graduate programs within 50+ departments & research centres. With the world's best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen's offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies. Queen's is an integral part of the Kingston community, with the campus nestled in the core of the city, only a 10-minute walk to downtown with its shopping, dining and waterfront. For more about 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 native language, prospective students must meet the [English language proficiency requirements](#) in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The following minimum scores are required: (1) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30). Applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score, or (2) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score and a 7.0 for each test band), or (3) PTE Academics: 65, or (4) CAEL CE -70 (minimum overall score).

### 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. See the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' information on [awards and scholarships](#).



**Queen's**  
UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF  
**ART HISTORY AND  
ART CONSERVATION**

**Art Conservation Program**  
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