Art History

Our courses explore how visual and material cultures have shaped human societies across time and around the world. Course topics range from the scientific study of artists' techniques to cultural heritage preservation, from Renaissance sculpture to Inuit printmaking, and from Baroque painting to Victorian textiles. Our students also have many opportunities for first-hand engagement with art and architecture outside the classroom.

5 Reasons to study Art History

1. Develop a strong visual literacy with the images and material objects that surround us.
2. Take field trips to important exhibitions of art in the region.
3. Study in our international programs, including the Venice Summer School.
4. Engage in first-hand classroom study at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre.
5. Learn from faculty members with international reputations, who have a variety of experiences and perspectives to share.

TOP ALUMNI JOBS

- 6% of alumni work in ART
- 7% of alumni work in GOVERNMENT
- 17% of alumni work in CURATION & CONSERVATION
- 40% of alumni work in EDUCATION

Alumni Story

“My art history graduate education at Queen’s provided me with excellent training as an art historian. I had the opportunity to study and work directly with historic drawings in the Queen’s Archives, and learn how to research and catalogue them while producing a finding aid for a newly acquired collection.”

- Christine O’Malley Queen’s BA and MA

2022-23 Plan Thresholds

Thresholds are made on a competitive basis and are updated annually. To see the thresholds for all programs as well as the latest information, please visit quartsci.com/planselection

Add a Certificate
- Data Analytics
- Disability and Physical Activity
- Employment Relations
- Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity
- French for Professionals
- Geographic Information Science
- Global Action and Engagement
- Indigenous Languages and Cultures
- International Studies
- Media Studies
- Sexual and Gender Diversity
- Urban Planning Studies


That is a degree from Queen’s.

queensu.ca/art
2022-2023

Art History MAJOR MAP

BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS): MAJOR, MINOR

1ST YEAR
- In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Art History along with some electives. Those choosing a future in Art Conservation may want to take Chemistry and Biology as part of your first-year electives.
- Attend Majors Night in the Winter term to learn more about plan options.

2ND YEAR
- Start going deeper into the discipline of Art History, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as Global Action and Engagement. Attend Degree+ in the fall term to learn more about certificates and internship options.
- Want to make sure your academics are where you want them to be? Visit SASS (Student Academic Support Services) and the Writing Centre for some help.

3RD YEAR
- A chance to start grouping courses in areas of interest, or to keep it more general and explore many areas of Art History. Meet with an Academic Advisor to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for next year.

4TH OR FINAL YEAR
- In fourth year you will have the chance to participate in research-based courses that can lead to Graduate School or to your future career path. Make sure to finish up all your courses for your degree.

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED
- Start thinking about what you would like to study abroad. Apply in January for a third-year exchange through the International Programs office.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
- Volunteer at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, where student docents lead school programs, family programs, and assist with children's art classes.
- Volunteer at the Queen's Innovation Connector Summer Initiative (QICSI).
- Attend the Queen's annual Art History graduate student conference, Context and Meaning, in February.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY
- Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations, such as Best Buddies or Muse Magazine.
- Volunteer at the Queen's Innovation Connector Summer Initiative (QICSI).
- Attend the Queen's annual Art History graduate student conference, Context and Meaning, in February.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY
- Prepare for work or study in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUC: Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.
- Speak to a QUC advisor to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION
- Grappling with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some helpful considering career options from Career Services.
- Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as Careers for Culture Lovers. For information check out Career Cruising.
- Explore different careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as Careers for Culture Lovers. For information check out Career Cruising.
- Start focusing on areas of interest. Research education requirements for careers of interest. If needed, prepare to take any required tests (like the GRE or LSAT) and get help thinking about Grad School from Career Services.

Consider a 12-16 month QUIP Internship
- Consider joining professional associations like Universities Art Association of Canada (UAAC), Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada (SSAC), and the College Art Association.

What will I learn?
- A degree in Art History can equip you with:
  - Visual literacy: know how to look carefully and think critically about visual images and material objects of all kinds
  - Knowledge of artistic movements, ways of interpreting art, art theory, and historical trends in art
  - Understanding of the relationships between art, history and culture
  - Oral and written communication: express your ideas effectively in spoken and written form
  - Research skills and critical thinking to find, interpret, and apply information
  - Analytical skills to analyze an argument and evaluate its validity
  - Resource and time management

Where can I go?
- A degree in Art History can take your career in many directions. Many students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a Master's. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:
  - Architecture
  - Architectural preservation
  - Archives and archival science
  - Art auctioning
  - Art education
  - Art journalism
  - Art therapy
  - Design
  - Gallery administration
  - Heritage policy
  - Marketing and promotions
  - Museology
  - Museum curating
  - University research, college, and museum education
  - Tourism & Travel

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

© Queen's University, 2022-2023

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 Major Map tool.
Art History

Get started thinking about the future now – where do you want to go after your degree? Having tentative goals (like careers or grad school) while working through your degree can help with short-term decisions about courses and experiences, but also help you keep motivated for success.

Get the help you need

Queen’s provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. At Queen’s, you are never alone. We have many offices dedicated to helping you learn, think and do.

Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming living and learning environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally. Queen’s wants you to succeed! Check out the Student Affairs website for available resources.

Why study in Kingston?

For 175 years, our community has been more than a collection of bright minds – Queen’s has attracted students with an ambitious spirit. Queen’s has the highest retention rates, the highest graduation rates, and one of the highest employment rates among recent graduates. We are a research intensive university focused on the undergraduate experience. The BBC has identified Kingston as one of the GREATEST UNIVERSITY TOWNS in the world – and it is often awarded the safest city in Canada. It is a university city at the core; just a quick drive to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and even New York. A university with more clubs per capita than any other university in Canada, and a city with more restaurants per capita than any other city in North America – you will have the experience of a lifetime at Queen’s – and graduate with a degree that is globally recognized among the best.