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.

TOP 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 PRODUCTION
- 7% of alumni work in GOVERNMENT
- 17% of alumni work in CURATION & CONSERVATION
- 40% of alumni work in EDUCATION

“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

Acquire Skills. Gain Experience. Go Global. That is a degree from Queen’s.
GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

1ST YEAR
- In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Art History along with some electives. Those considering a future in Art Conservation may want to take Chemistry and Biology as part of your first-year electives.
- Attend Major 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 1+ in the Fall term to learn more about certificate and internship options.
- Want to make sure you 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.
- Apply to ARTH 395 to get academic credit for a hands-on internship. Apply for upper-year volunteer positions at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre. If interested, apply for an Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship (USSRF). Consider applying to do a 12-16 month QUIP internship between your third and fourth 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 major and your minor.
- Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest. Assess what experience you’re lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships – check out the Career Services skills workshop for help.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Join teams or clubs on campus such as Vogue Charity Fashion Show or Ultraviolet Magazine.
- See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen’s Get Involved page for more ideas.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer on or off-campus with different community organizations, such as Best Buddies or Muse Magazine.
- Volunteer at places like the Queen's Archives or the Union Gallery. Look into summer jobs by talking to the department or Career Services about work through SWEP or Work-Study. Consider entrepreneurial opportunities via programs like the Queen’s Innovation Connector Summer Initiative (QICI).

GET THINKING GLOBALY

Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUIC’s Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.
- Speak to a QUIC advisor to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Grapple with program decisions? Go to Majors Night or get some help 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. Fore information check our Career Cruising.

Consider a 12-16 MONTH QUIP INTERNSHIP

Attend the Queen’s annual Art History graduate student conference, Context and Meaning, in February.
- Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group Queen’s Connects. Connect with professors at events or workshops hosted by the DSC.

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:
- Architect
- Architectural preservation
- Archivist
- Art auctioning
- Art education
- Art history
- Design
- Gallery administration
- Heritage policy
- Marketing and promotions
- Museology
- Museum curating
- Professor
- Tourism & Travel

Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormap for the online version with links!

* This map is intended to provide suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone’s abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. Build your own Major Map using our online My Major Map tool.
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.

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.