The History Department offers a wide range of courses that span from the pre-modern past to the contemporary era and geographically circle the globe. Courses build on a number of disciplinary vantage points and explore various themes, including cultural, economic, environmental, gender, global and transnational, Indigenous, intellectual, labour, legal, political, and religious history. In addition, students have the opportunity to undertake a variety of independent research, community projects, experiential learning, and internship opportunities. The emphasis on analysis, critical thinking, research, communication, and writing skills prepare history students for careers in law, education, public policy, business, museum and archives, publishing, research, and media.

**32% of alumni work in EDUCATION**

**15% of alumni work in GOVERNMENT & NON-PROFIT**

**9% of alumni work in LAW**

**7% of alumni work in BANKING, INVESTMENT & INSURANCE**

Our alumni also work in fields such as media, libraries and archives, management, museums, and as researchers and consultants for industry. Listen to our Alumni Archives Podcast to learn more.

**TOP ALUMNI JOBS**

**TOP 5 REASONS to study HISTORY**

1. A History degree provides essential skills for a variety of career options, including education, law, policy, public service, media, and business.

2. History offers a range of small-sized seminars, which allow students to interact with professors individually and provides an enriching learning experience.

3. The range of courses spans the globe. History lecture and seminar courses cover every continent, and many courses examine the interconnected nature of human experience.

4. History helps us to critically examine how the world we inhabit came to be.

5. A history degree offers opportunities for innovative independent research projects and a number of real-world experiential learning and public history internships.

“Studying in the Queen’s History department taught me a number of great things, including that I know a small fraction of what there is to know, but that I have the capacity to learn a lot through discussion, analysis and hard work.”  

-Christine Platt, BAH ’07

**2021-22 major 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.
BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS): MAJOR, MEDIAL, MINOR

GRADUATION FOR LIFE AFTER GLOBALLY GET THINKING COMMUNITY GET CONNECTED EXPERIENCE GET RELEVANT

History

MAJOR MAP *

1ST YEAR

In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of History along with some electives.

Attend Maoris Night in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options.

Questions about the History program? Meet with the a peer advisor (PATH) or contact the Department's Academic Advising Team.

2ND YEAR

Start going deeper into the discipline of History and consider a minor to diversify your learning experience. Attend Degree + in the Fall term to learn more about Certificates and internship options.

Want to make sure your academic skills 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 History. Meet with an Academic Advisor to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for next year.

If interested, apply for an Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship (USSRF).

Consider applying for a 12-16 month QUIP internship between your third and fourth year.

Consider applying for HIST 517: Independent Study Project and submit your work at the Inquiry @ Queen’s Undergraduate Conference.

Apply to Department of History Experiential Learning opportunities.

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 optional minor and/or certificate(s).

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.

Consider completing an Independent Research Project and submit your work at the Inquiry @ Queen’s Undergraduate Conference.

Consider joining professional associations like the Heritage Canada Association and the Canadian Historical Association (CHA).

Become involved as a Peer Advisor in our Peer Advising Team in History (PATH).

What will I learn?

A degree in History can equip you with:

• Knowledge of a broad spectrum of historical events and trends
• Understanding of how historians study the past
• Knowledge of how political, social, economic, and cultural change occurs
• Understanding of the relationship between history and current events
• Oral and written communication to communicate ideas through writing and present research to a group
• Analytical skills to make judgements based on available historical evidence
• Research skills to synthesize large amounts of material and identify relevant information
• Attention to detail to analyze texts and historical arguments
• Problem solving to develop systematic procedures for investigating a problem
• Resource and time management

Where can I go?

A degree in 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:

• Anthropology
• Archival science
• Genealogical research
• Intelligence analysis
• Library science
• Museum curator
• Policy analyst
• Public administration
• Technical writing

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

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

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

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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.