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.

TOP ALUMNI JOBS

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 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.

Alumni Story

“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

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


That is a degree from Queen’s.
**History MAJOR MAP**

**1ST YEAR**
- In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of History along with some electives.
- Attend Majors Night in the Winter to learn more about Plan options.
- Questions about the History program? Meet with the *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 1 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 to do 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 History @ Queen’s Undergraduate Conference.
- Consider joining the Canadian Historical Association (CHA) and the International Historical Association (IHA).

**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
- 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 Paper in History (HIST 514/515) and submit your work at the Inquiry @ Queen’s Conference.

**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.
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.