Why GRADUATE STUDIES in ART HISTORY?
The MA in Art History offers advanced training in the study of visual and material culture from the Middles Ages to the present. The Queen’s Art History program is strongly committed to mentoring and to the training of graduate students in a variety of interdisciplinary approaches, methodologies, and issues, including the technical examination of art, gender studies, critical theory, cultural representation, curatorial studies, and the relationships among art, literature, and science.

The program offers a wide range of courses that delve into case studies relating to broader issues. All Art History courses emphasize visual literacy and the contextual relevance of the discipline within culture and history.

Why QUEEN’S?
The Art History program at Queen’s maintains close ties with the Agnes Etherington Art Centre on campus, which features innovative exhibitions, programs, and high-quality collections.

“Choosing Art History at Queen’s was one of the best decisions I have ever made. Attending Queen’s was a positive and nurturing experience, made possible because of an advisor and faculty members who were active scholars, thoughtful pedagogues and caring mentors.”

– John Potvin, PhD

Program STRUCTURE
The 2-year Master of Art History is offered in 2 patterns:
• Pattern I: Four term-length courses in Art History, and a Master’s Thesis of 20-25,000 words.
• Pattern II: Six term-length courses in Art History, and an Advanced Research Paper.
For both patterns, the student shall choose a potential supervisor and pattern by the end of the second term.

RESEARCH Areas
• Medieval art and architecture, neo-Medievalism
• 14th to 18th-century Southern and Central European arts
• 17th-century Dutch and Flemish art
• 19th to 20th century European and Scandinavian art
• History of photography
• Modernism
• Global contemporary art
• Indigenous cultures
• Canadian visual culture
• Global cultural contact
• Technical art history
• History of conservation and cultural heritage reservation
• History of collecting and museums
• Curatorial studies
• Art and medicine

Visit the Art History Department website to read faculty profiles and learn more about faculty members’ research areas. When you find a faculty member with similar research interests to yours, contact him/her and tell them about your interest in graduate work and related experience.
A Master's degree in Art History can take your career in many directions. Many of our MA students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Academia and teaching
- Museum, curatorial and cultural policy positions
- Writing and publishing
- Commercial galleries
- Auction houses
- Archives

Tackling 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/gradmaps 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 Grad Map using our online My Grad Map tool.
Graduate Studies FAQs

How do I use this map?

Whether you are considering or have embarked on graduate studies at Queen’s, use this map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. The map helps you explore possibilities, set goals and track your individual accomplishments. Everyone’s journey is different – the guide offers options for finding your way at Queen’s and setting the foundation for your future. To make your own customized map, use the online My Grad Map tool.

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 SGS HABITAT 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
- Honours BA in Art History or related discipline.
- Grade requirements: minimum B+/A- average over all 4 years of undergrad study.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- A reading knowledge of a language other than English, usually chosen from French, German, or Italian, is required. (The language competency can be gained while carrying out graduate studies.)
- Writing sample
- Statement of Research Interest
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The School of Graduate Studies requires the following minimum scores: TOEFL (paper-based): 550, (2) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30), for a total of 88/120 (applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score), or (3) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score), or (4) PTE Academics: 65.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Application due: January 10th.
- Notification of acceptance: early March.

Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.

What about FUNDING?

M.A. students in Art History receive funding for each of the two years of the program. The amount varies each year, but will be approximately $10,000-$15,000 per year for students who do not hold major external awards. Depending on the needs of the Department, a portion of a Master’s student’s funding may be allocated as a Teaching Assistantship.

Queen’s Art History is proud to have an extraordinary record of success with SSHRC and other major external awards. The program offers a series of workshops to help with these applications. Queen’s will automatically issue a $5,000 top-up to Master’s winners of federal government tri-council awards. For more information on many external awards, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships.