Why GRADUATE STUDIES in ENGLISH?

The English Department at Queen's University is a professionally-oriented research department whose faculty members are distinguished by both scholarly prowess and teaching excellence. The newly-launched Master of Philosophy program is unique among Ontario Universities and features intensive field-specific study, broad coursework, a Publishing Practicum, and guaranteed entry into the Queen's English Doctoral Program upon successful completion of MPhil degree requirements. This program will be of particular interest to undergraduate students considering doctoral research.

Why QUEEN’S?

The graduate programs in English at Queen's are among the oldest and most prestigious in the country, combining commitment to historical breadth with promotion of methodological and disciplinary innovation. The department's vibrant intellectual community is developed and sustained by the synergies between the knowledge and passion of our distinguished faculty and the ideas and inspirations of our outstanding graduate students.

Fields of STUDY

- Medieval Literature
- Renaissance Literature
- Restoration & 18th-Century Literature
- Romantic Literature
- Victorian Literature
- Modernist Literature
- American Literature
- Canadian Literature
- Indigenous Studies
- Gender Studies
- Postcolonial Studies
- Literary Theory

MPhil students choosing to move directly into the workforce upon graduation will have attained field-specific expertise, advanced professionalization, and evidence of research and writing skills through the Publishing Practicum. MPhil students choosing to move on into doctoral studies will accelerate their dissertation work by three full terms.

Program STRUCTURE

The MPhil is a 24-month program that features coursework, field exams, and a Publishing Practicum. MPhil students pursuing Doctoral studies will receive advanced standing into the PhD program.

“The faculty are both accomplished and approachable at the same time.”
– Robyn Carruthers, PhD
**GETTING STARTED**

- Start with key priorities like determining a course pattern that builds on your passions while covering your historical requirements.
- Consider how your courses might prepare you for eventual doctoral work or other educational and career goals beyond the MPhil.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from the departmental and Expanding Horizons professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the SGS Habitat.

**INTERMEDIATE STAGE**

- Continue your coursework, bring alert to final essays that might be revised into publishable papers.
- Read for and complete field exams.
- Secure your Publishing Practicum placement.

**WRAPPING UP**

- Complete your coursework, field exams, and Publishing Practicum.

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**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

A graduate degree in English can equip you with:

- Knowledge and technical skills
- Effective communication skills in multiple forms for diverse audiences
- Information management: prioritize, organize and synthesize large amounts of information
- Time management: meet deadlines and manage responsibilities despite competing demands
- Project management: develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
- Creativity and innovation
- Perseverance
- Independence and experience as a collaborative worker
- Awareness, an understanding of sound ethical practices, social responsibility, responsible research and cultural sensitivity
- Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
- Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussion

**WHERE CAN I GO?**

A Master’s degree in English can take your career in many directions. Many of our MPhil students will choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master’s students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Writing
- Editing
- Publishing
- Teaching
- Law
- Civil service
- Business
- NGO work
- Information technologies
- Taking time to explore career options, build experiences, and network can help you make a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

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**ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**

- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider whether you wish to take the “Literary Internship” as one of your courses in the Fall term.
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations, such as the Kingston WritersFest.

**BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen’s Journal, CFOX, and the SGS Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.
- Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees. Talk to the Graduate English Society for tips on getting involved.
- Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons.

**ACHEIVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**

- Start with key priorities like determining a course pattern that builds on your passions while covering your historical requirements.
- Consider how your courses might prepare you for eventual doctoral work or other educational and career goals beyond the MPhil.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from the departmental and Expanding Horizons professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the SGS Habitat.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links!
Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Honours Bachelor of Arts degree
- Grade requirements: minimum average of A- (3.7/4.3 GPA) and a cumulative minimum average of A- (3.7/4.3 GPA) in 10 full-year English Literature courses (or equivalent).
- Applicants are expected to have taken courses in most major areas of English literature from the medieval period to the present, and in literary theory.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Two official transcripts from each post-secondary institution attended
- Two letters of recommendation
- Statement of interest: Outline of research interests and goals
- Writing sample: 8 pages max. (including bibliography)
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The minimum score requirements for the MPhil program are: (1) TOEFL paper-based: 627, computer-based: 263, internet-based: 109, (2) TOEFL Test of Written English paper or computer-based: 6.0, internet-based: 30, and an (3) IELTS score of 7.5. These tests must have been taken within a year of the date of pre-application.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Application due: January 15 for all documentation and application.
- Notification of acceptance: March and April.

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

What about FUNDING?

MPhil students receive minimum funding of $12,000 for the two-year program. Students are usually funded through a combination of internal fellowships, teaching assistantships, bursaries, and scholarships as part of the basic funding package.

Apply for external funding from OGS, SSHRC and other sources. Queen's will automatically issue a one time $5,000 award to incoming Masters students who have won federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies' information on awards and scholarships.

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