Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

**ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**
- Minimum second-class standing in final two years of an Honours BA program in History from a recognized university (76-79%, 3.3/4.3 GPA).

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**
- Writing sample and an Extended Statement of Interest.
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the following minimum scores: TOEFL (paper-based): 550; TOEFL iBT: Writing 24/30; Speaking 22/30; Reading 21/30; Listening 26/30; 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 Academic: 65.

**KEY DATES & DEADLINES**
- Application due: Third week of January.
- Notification of acceptance: 4 weeks after we receive your full application.

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

What about FUNDING?
The Department of History at Queen's provides funding for all MA students. Students receive financial support from a variety of sources including Queen’s Graduate and Academic Excellence Awards, external awards, and Teaching Assistantships. 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 page.

**Why GRADUATE STUDIES in HISTORY?**
Consider a graduate degree in History for all it has to offer: well-developed skills in critical reading, writing, and research and, perhaps even more importantly, engagement with oneself and the world we all inhabit.

Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing research process that provides the community with ways of understanding natural, cultural, imaginative, social and technological phenomena.

Today’s employment marketplace seeks people who are critically informed, culturally literate, capable of synthesizing information and adept at creating and managing knowledge-based projects. Study History and you will acquire such skills.

**Why QUEEN’S?**
The Department of History at Queen’s offers a challenging and innovative graduate program in established and new fields of historical inquiry.

Our students are taught primarily in small all-graduate seminars, in which they engage in a lively, critical examination of historical writing, and delve into their own research. We are a mid-sized university and department, and are therefore able to create for our students a rich, supportive learning community. Our Graduate History Students’ Association fosters a vibrant community through a variety of social events and professional development workshops.

**For MA students**
We offer two MA program patterns. Pattern I (12-20 months) requires students to complete 6 seminar courses and write a thesis of about 100 pages. Pattern II (1-year) requires students to complete 4 seminar courses and either a thesis or extended essay of around 50 pages.

**Research Areas**
- Canada
- United States
- Atlantic World
- Modern Europe
- Intellectual
- Mediterranean World
- Medieval and Early Modern Worlds
- Africa
- Middle East
- "Race": Historical International Perspectives
- Global, World, and Transnational History
- Britain
- South Asia
- Islam
- East Asia
**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

A graduate degree in History can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- **Project management:** develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
- **Knowledge and technical skills:**
- **Effective communication skills in multiple forms such as writing, editing, and presenting for diverse audiences**
- **Information management:** prioritize, organize and synthesize large amounts of information
- **Time management:** meet deadlines and manage responsibilities despite competing demands
- **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 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:

- **Law**
- **Government**
- **Social Policy Research**
- **Museums and Public History**
- **Documentary Filmmaking**
- **Military**
- **Journalism**
- **Education**
- **Public Service**

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

---

**INTERMEDIATE STAGE**

- Complete your cognate essay or thesis.
- Attend or present at a graduate conference such as McGill-Queens. Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.
- Consider publication options for your research.
- Attend a major conference in your field, such as the Canadian Historical Association (CHA).
- Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a Grad Chat to discuss your research interests.
- Consider putting an article in The Conversation.

**WRAPPING UP**

- Complete your cognate essay or thesis.
- Consider publication options for your research.
- Attend a major conference in your field, such as the Canadian Historical Association (CHA).
- Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a Grad Chat to discuss your research interests.
- Consider putting an article in The Conversation.

---

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