Why GRADUATE STUDIES in EDUCATION?

Through our PhD in Education, you will become a professional leader in education with strong scholarly knowledge. Our graduate programs are designed to develop and support innovative research in education. Join our collaborative and inclusive research community of education experts. Our coursework and research emphasize the creation of knowledge leading to enhancements in teaching and learning theory, policy and practice. Our PhD in Education is a full-time four-year program, which leverages the expertise, collaboration, and partnerships in the Queen's research community.

Why QUEEN’S?

Queen's University has an active and vibrant graduate student community. Our Faculty of Education brings together diverse perspectives on education, fostering multidisciplinary expertise within an active collaborative research community. Our research leads to new knowledge and understandings about teaching and learning, and progressive changes in educational policies and practices.

As a researcher at Queen's, you will engage in outreach initiatives that serve and enhance communities of practice through local, national, and international partnerships.

Program STRUCTURE

PhD (4 years): Course work, comprehensive examination, thesis, and defense.

We develop progressive, ethical and thoughtful leaders in education through teaching, research, and professional collaboration.

RESEARCH Areas

- Curriculum Theorizing
- Educational Studies
- Learning and Cognition
- Literacy Education
- Measurement, Assessment, Policy, Leadership and Evaluation
- Special Education
- World Indigenous Studies in Education

Introduce yourself and share your ideas with one of our faculty members. We highly recommend you identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying. Our faculty members in Education are approachable, accessible and collaborative. Our faculty members can be invaluable in supporting your application for admission. Visit the Faculty of Education website to read faculty profiles to learn more about faculty members’ research areas.
**Education**

**PhD MAP**

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD)**

**YEAR I**

**ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**

- Key priorities include forming your committee, coursework, and field exams.
- Meet early with your supervisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research occupational goals, timelines, and any required accommodation plans.
- Look to Student Academic Success Services for a variety of supports.

**MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**

- Think about audiences for your research.
- Complete ROMEO online module on research ethics if doing research with living people or sensitive topics.
- Apply to SSHRC, OGS, and other funding.
- Attend conferences in your field.

**BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

- Serve on Faculty, GGS, and GSS committees.
- Consider positions in student services or media outlets like the Queen’s Journal, CFRC, and the SGS Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory.
- Apply for a Teaching Assistantship or Graduate Teaching Fellow position to develop your skills and experience.

**ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**

- Consider volunteering with different community organizations and events, such as local school boards, the Hart Centre, or Boys and Girls Clubs.
- Connect to broader communities of Education researchers through professional organizations such as the Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSE) or the American Education Research Association.
- Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organization of conferences, and research groups.
- If pursuing research abroad or outside Kingston, investigate options such as Ministries of Education, School Boards, Educational non-profit organizations.

**LAUNCH YOUR CAREER**

- Finding a career start with knowing yourself. Take a Career Services career planning workshop or meet with a career counselor for help. Check out books like So What Are You Going to do With That? for advice on various career options.
- Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education.
- Browse non-academic labour market websites. Stay on the lookout for special events like Graduate Student Career Forums to explore your career pathways.
- Build your teaching portfolio by using student evaluations, and seeking mentorship.
- Explore different careers of interest by reading alumni profiles on the SGS website and using Queen’s Connects on LinkedIn to connect with alumni or find alumni in various careers through Ask an Alum. For more information, visit Career Cruising.
- Investigate requirements for professional positions or other opportunities related to careers of interest.

**YEAR II**

**ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**

- Priorities include completion of coursework, formation of supervisory committee and completion of mandatory comprehensive examination.
- Set up regular meetings with your supervisor to discuss progress and obstacles to timely completion.
- Find your way through the academic process with the help of Expanding Horizons professional development workshops, the Education Associate Dean, and the SGS Habitat.
- Seek professional development opportunities.

**MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**

- Attend or present at a graduate conference such as ScholarJarg, or the Rosa Bruno-Jofré Symposium in Education.
- Expand your research audience through social media.
- Apply for the Graduate Dean’s Travel Grant for Doctoral Field Research.
- Hone skills for non-academic employment by continuing involvement on committees and in communities.
- Begin to keep an e-portfolio of your skills, experiences and competencies.
- Enroll in SGS901 or the PSCIL certificate for more professional development in teaching and learning.

**BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

- Review Coursework and field exams.
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**YEAR III**

**ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**

- Continue to meet regularly with your supervisor, review research progress, and write your dissertation. Check out the SGS Dissertation Boot Camp or Dissertation on the Link.
- Use conference presentations to create, discuss, and explore ways to disseminate research findings.
- Learn from the Expanding Horizons Publishing workshop.
- Begin discussion of potential thesis defence examiners.
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**YEAR IV & TRANSITIONING**

**ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**

- Plan date of thesis submission for examination.
- Present your research to graduate students and faculty or at conferences, and work with supervisor to prepare for defence.
- Review submission guidelines.
- Secure necessary oral defence accommodations.
- Discuss career pathways, references letters, and publication options with your supervisor.

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**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

- A graduate degree in Education can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:
  - Awareness, an understanding of sound ethical practices, social responsibility, responsible research and cultural sensitivity
  - Knowledge and research 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 researcher
  - Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
  - Leadership: initiative and vision, leading people and discussion

**WHERE CAN I GO?**

- A PhD in Education can take your career in many directions. In Canada, less than 40% of PhDs will work in post-secondary education – the majority will work in industry, government, or non-profits
- University faculty/researchers
- Post-doctoral fellows
- Researchers at research agencies and school boards
- Leaders in health sciences and government
- Provincial and Territorial Departments of Education
- Educational Organizations
- Teachers
- Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and to network, can help you achieve a smooth transition to employment after graduation.
Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Master's degree in Education or a related discipline with first-class standing from a recognized university.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Professional experience in education or a related field is an asset.
- Two-page research proposal.
- 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 15
- Notification of acceptance: Late February

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

What about FUNDING?

All eligible full-time graduate students who request funding (financial support) as part of their initial application can expect to receive a funding offer to help them with the costs associated with their graduate studies in the Faculty of Education.

The minimum guaranteed funding package for Ph.D. students is $18,000 per year, and it is important to note that they must apply for all major external and internal (where appropriate) scholarships for which they are eligible in order to qualify for the minimum guarantee. Recipients of external awards will not receive $18,000 on top of them; however, their packages are likely to be higher than those who do not win external funds. Normally, if students apply for and successfully obtain a Teaching and/or Research Assistantship the average funding for eligible Ph.D. students is approximately $25,000 per year.

Funding packages are awarded to students based on academic merit and they may consist of any or a combination of the following: scholarships, fellowships, external awards the student may bring with them, internal awards, research assistantships, teaching assistantships or graduate teaching fellowships. The Faculty also offers funding for participation in conferences.

Apply for external funding from OGS, SSHRC/NSERC and other sources. Queen's will automatically issue a $10,000 award to incoming PhD students who have won federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies' information on awards and scholarships and the Faculty of Education's funding information.