What is History?

Someone once observed that “history is life’s teacher.” Put another way, the study of the past is a fundamental guide to understanding past, present, and future. In the words of historian Priya Satia, “history is always about questions of contemporary interest, always ‘applied’ to addressing contemporary issues.” Studying History at King’s empowers students with relevant knowledge about the past — about how we got to now. We help to equip students with essential skills for navigating the challenges and opportunities of today’s world: critical thinking, evidence-based analysis and interpretation, as well as effective verbal and written communication skills.

What CAN YOU DO WITH A HISTORY DEGREE?

The proof is in the past! Graduates of History programs are to be found in professional positions that have changed the world around them. History graduates populate almost every conceivable professional field. They work in domains that satisfy their curiosity, their quest for knowledge, and their desire to be of service to humanity. They advocate for those who cannot defend themselves; they imagine new ways of working and of being; and they bring their analytical acumen to every position they hold, from arts administrators to lawyers, from politicians to policymakers, from teachers to counselors, lawyers to entrepreneurs. History students from Kate Middleton (Art History), to Salmon Rushdie, to Shakira, say it all... studying History opens the door to infinite futures.

ONLINE RESOURCES

• King’s University College Career Connect
  kings.uwo.ca/career-connect
• King’s University College Job Board
  www.kingsjobboard.ca/jobs
• King’s University College Alumni Services
  kings.uwo.ca/alumni
• Western University Student Success: Find Work
  success.uwo.ca/careers
• Pillar Non-Profit for London Region Opportunities
  www.pillarnonprofit.ca/jobs
• American Historical Association
• Canadian Historical Association

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY PROGRAM
kings.uwo.ca/history

WELLNESS RESOURCES

• Student Affairs
  kings.uwo.ca/wellness

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

• Relevant themes of study: Genocide Studies, Fascism, Social Movements, Terrorism, Religion, Revolution, Sport, Human Rights, Commemoration and Remembering. Public History Areas of Study include Canada, U.S., Latin America, Asia, Europe and World History
• Deeper knowledge of Historical contexts
• Activities that bring history to life and help you apply skills to professional contexts
• Possibilities to broaden your spectrum of curiosity
• Engagement in contemporary life through exploration of past events
• Opportunities to encounter historical figures and their lived experience first-hand in the sources
• Archival research and field work and applied research through Experiential and Active Learning
• Projects that deploy media in the service of History: podcasts, documentaries, theater, graphic novels

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About the History Program
The History program at King’s is designed to foster our students’ historical awareness. Our faculty are committed to developing and sharing knowledge, and to using history in a way that is relevant and meaningful to our students. We aim to develop students’ critical thinking and analytical skills, and to encourage them to think about the past in a way that is both rigorous and engaging. We encourage students to think about the ways in which history is used to inform policy decisions, and to think critically about the ways in which history is taught and communicated. We believe that history is a powerful tool that can be used to inform the present and the future, and we are committed to teaching our students how to use this tool effectively.

Skills and Competencies
- Communication
- Critical thinking
- Research
- Writing
- Oral presentation
- Numeracy
- Collaboration
- Technology
- Technology
- Technology

First Year
- Take a first-year history course: Choose from several topics: Canadian history, U.S. history, or world history.
- Meet with your academic advisor to discuss your course selection.
- Participate in the History program’s orientation week
- Attend events such as the King’s Players play or the Western Mustangs game.
- Take a first-year history course: Choose from several topics: Canadian history, U.S. history, or world history.
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Middle Years
- Take a second-year history course: Choose from several topics: Canadian history, U.S. history, or world history.
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Graduating Year
- Take a third-year history course: Choose from several topics: Canadian history, U.S. history, or world history.
- Meet with your academic advisor to discuss your course selection.
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