



GRADUATE PROGRAM GUIDE 2025-26

Research excellence with impact.



Queen's Law offers an intellectually rich graduate experience with its Master of Laws (LLM) and PhD program options

Graduate students and their work are a crucial part of the Faculty of Law's vibrant research community. Attracting dedicated, collaborative and motivated students from across Canada and around the world, our graduate students work closely with world-leading legal scholars, and advance critical research in different areas of legal knowledge.

Graduates of our LLM and PhD programs have made their mark in legal scholarship, professional practice, and public service. They go on to work in law faculties around the world, in legal and advisory service firms, serve as counsel to international organizations and NGOs, as policy advisors to governments, and as mediators, arbitrators, judges, and much more.

Students learn and work in an intimate and collegial research environment that celebrates diversity of thought, lived experience, and academic discovery.

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"My experience at Queen's will certainly shape my approach to my new deanship. My studies helped me to better appreciate that law should *and must* be an agent of social change. The Faculty facilitated this appreciation through all their teaching, course offerings, seminars, and more."

Alicia Elias-Roberts, PhD'23

Dean of Law, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus

SCAN HERE to learn more about our program and admission requirements



Addressing the most pressing and complex global legal issues.

Application requirements:

- Two recommendations
 - Transcripts
 - Resume/ CV
- Statement of objectives
 - Research proposals
 - Writing sample

LLM

- **Timing:** Nine- to 12-month program that deepens students' legal knowledge and research skills with a view to further studies at the doctoral level or careers in research, policy, or legal practice.
- **Flexibility:** Freedom to design a course of study that meets individual needs and aspirations.
- **Program pathway:** Two required graduate seminars, *Legal Research Methods & Perspectives* and *Advanced Legal Research*; and a research project under the guidance of a faculty supervisor.
- **Project delivery:** Research project can consist of thesis, mini-thesis, or course paper based on objectives.

PhD

- **Timing:** Four-year program of advanced scholarly research and writing, culminating in a dissertation.
- **Embedded in community:** Doctoral students can teach courses in the law school and work in collaboration with faculty members on research projects. They are invited to participate in faculty workshops, lectures and seminars, and engage intellectually with other students and faculty.
- **Program pathway:** Two required graduate seminars, *Legal Research Methods & Perspectives*; and *Advanced Legal Research*; graduate-level courses relevant to research topic; directed readings; dissertation proposal and qualifying exam.
- **Project delivery:** Doctoral dissertation <80,000 words in length; final dissertation defense.



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Deadlines:

January 15: LLM; LLM with a Specialization in Political and Legal Thought; and PhD applications

November 15: LLM International Law Programs

Why Queen's Law graduate programs?

- Gain a world-class, cross-disciplinary legal education tailored to your academic and professional goals.
- Learn from leading legal scholars, including endowed professorship holders in business law, a Canada Research Chair in Public Law and Philosophy of Law, and more.
- Participate in our pivotal research centres, groups, and programs, including Conflict Analytics Lab, Centre for Law in the Contemporary Workplace, Feminist Legal Studies, Legal and Political Philosophy, and Surveillance Studies Centre.
- Through our local and global reach, connect with diverse communities to engage in collaborative knowledge creation and real world scholarship.

Alicia Elias-Roberts, PhD'23
Dean of Law,
University of the
West Indies

**Ken Watkin, QC,
Law'80, LLM'90**
Retired Brigadier
General, former Judge
Advocate General
(JAG); award-winning
author

**Ekaterina Antsygina,
PhD'16**
Postdoctoral
Researcher in Law (Law
of the Sea, Public
International Law,
Environmental Law)

**Stephanie
Simpson, LLM'19,**
Queen's University,
Vice-Principal
(Human Rights,
Equity and
Inclusion)

Tobi Moody, PhD'16
Director, World
Intellectual Property
Organization

