The School of Indigenous and Canadian Studies (SICS) tackles problems that do not fit easily into disciplinary boundaries. Our Indigenous Studies courses explore the relationship between settlers and the land they occupy, the trauma of colonialism, and the process of reconciliation. The School considers the conjoined histories of Indigenous peoples and Canadians as a complex, ambiguous and often violent relationship that continues to affect every resident of this country.

SICS Heritage Conservation courses teach the theory and practice of preserving heritage, with a special focus on place, urban communities, critical heritage studies and sustainability. Other SICS courses cover culture and politics, including nation-branding and the representation and performance of identity. SICS graduate students benefit from the concentration of experts and national institutions working on these issues in the nation’s capital. They develop the interdisciplinary research methods and innovative ways of thinking required to pursue these complex lines of inquiry. The School offers a PhD program that has been run jointly with Trent University since 2001.

PhD students may add a specialization in Political Economy to their degree; Master’s students may add a specialization in Digital Humanities or a diploma in Curatorial Studies to their degree.

We invite you to join us as we aim to remember honestly and move forward respectfully into our shared future.

FACULTY AND STUDENT RESEARCH AREAS INCLUDE:
- Indigenous Studies and the North
- Heritage Conservation
- Collective memory and commemoration
- Cultural studies and policy
- Critical nationalism

DEGREES OFFERED
MA, PhD

"I am grateful to have had the opportunity to undertake my graduate studies in the School of Indigenous and Canadian Studies. SICS provides a supportive and academically rigorous environment in which students are encouraged to explore and pursue a variety of research interests. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of SICS, I was surrounded by accomplished and innovative scholars working in such fields as visual culture, gender studies, Indigenous studies, settler colonial studies, and affect. These fields all inform my current research projects. I feel that I have grown so much as a scholar in SICS, and have recommended the MA and PhD program to many friends and colleagues!"

— Charlotte Hoelke, PhD/19

CARERE OPTIONS
Our students grow to understand issues that are critical to Canada now and in doing so are equipped to grapple with the issues that will face us in the future. Their intellectual adaptability and capacity to navigate real-world ambiguities have led to careers in Heritage conservation and planning, Indigenous affairs, cultural policy, education, consulting, and many other sectors.

FALL APPLICATION DEADLINE
February 1, in order to be eligible for funding for both the MA and PhD programs

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
MA: An honours bachelor’s degree, or equivalent, in one of the disciplines represented in the school with an average of B+ or higher. Special consideration may be given to applicants interested in the Indigenous Studies and the North research area who have extensive knowledge of the North or Indigenous peoples.

PhD: A master’s degree, or equivalent, in Canadian studies or a closely related field with a minimum average of A- in courses, including the thesis (where applicable) and with no grade below a B+.

carleton.ca/sics

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