



Masters in the Conservation of Historic Objects

Subject: Conservation and Restoration

Programme Specification

Date: 18th. January 2008

Marketing Summary

Masters in Conservation of Historic Objects is a 180 CATS point programme of study offered by the Subject of Conservation and Restoration as part of the University's taught postgraduate modular scheme.

It recruits students directly from the BA(Hons) Conservation and Restoration programme in this university and equivalent programmes in other universities. Such students are likely to have graduated with a 2:1 classification or above. It also recruits directly from the university's Graduate Diploma in Conservation Studies; a pass from this 'conversion' programme ensures entry. On rare occasions, relevant professional experience or qualification in an allied field at Masters level, may be deemed appropriate for direct entry.

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Section 1: Basic Programme Data

This document describes one of the University of Lincoln's programmes using the protocols required by the UK National Qualifications Framework as defined in the publication *QAA guidelines for preparing programme specifications*

Final award	Masters
Programme	Masters in the Conservation of Historic Objects
Other exit awards	None
Other awards using modules from this programme	None
Mode of delivery	Full time/Part time
UCAS code	N/A
Awarding body	University of Lincoln
Teaching institution	University of Lincoln
Owning department	Art
Programme Leader	Sue Thomas
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	None
Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body accreditation	N/A
Programme start date	23.09.08
Introduction of the programme to be phased?	No

Document publication date	Date of confirmation of approval by Faculty	
Revision 1	Date of confirmation of approval of revision by Faculty	Change affects another programme? Please specify
Revision 2	Date of confirmation of approval of revision by Faculty	Change affects another programme? Please specify
Revision 3	Date of confirmation of approval of revision by Faculty	Change affects another programme? Please specify

Subsequent minor modifications to modules within this programme		
Module(s)	Date	Brief description of change including any affect on other programmes

Section 2: Programme Aims and Objectives

2.1 Educational aims of the programme

The Masters programme includes the advanced study of Practical Preventive Conservation, Professional Studies and Conservation Management and Research Methods, together with considerable focus on the treatment of complex historic objects. The summer semester is spent on a Research Project, chosen by the student. This can be conducted within the University, or outside, for instance, in a museum or laboratory in the UK or abroad.

The skills, knowledge and understanding commensurate with Master's level study, ensures that graduates are prepared for the challenges of complex treatment programmes and project management, and have a high level of awareness of relevant contextual issues, together with proven research skills.

The programme provides students with:

- Skills, knowledge and understanding relevant to the professional practice of conservation on a wide range of complex objects from a range of contexts;
- Ethical awareness, scientific and theoretical underpinning and aesthetic judgement as it applies to the professional practice of conservation of cultural property;
- Practical skills need for the management and execution of treatment programmes for complex historic objects;
- Management skills in the context of management of conservation, collections and in related professional practice;
- Decision-making skills which support the management of treatment and care for historic objects and collections of a complex nature;
- Attitudes of enquiry and logic which are necessary to undertake research and investigate work in the context of cultural property;
- A sound platform for later professional accreditation.

The Masters in the Conservation of Historic Objects is distinctive in its wide range of focus in terms of differing types of historic materials encompassed and in the breadth of options negotiable in the two Theory and Practice (double) units. Thus a student may focus on interventive treatment, preventive conservation or even collections management as long as unit aims are met.

There are possibilities to negotiate independent study for certain modules for those working in conservation wishing to up-grade qualifications or to undertake continuing professional development.

2.2 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s)

Not applicable

2.3 Internal contexts

Conservation and Restoration has been taught in Lincoln since 1974, previously under the umbrellas of Lincolnshire College of Art and Design (-1993) and De Montfort University (1993-2001). The Masters programme was first validated by De Montfort University in 1997 and acts as a continuation programme for Lincoln Conservation Undergraduates.

2.4 External contexts

The Conservation Unit has extensive external contacts within the Cultural Heritage Sector. These contacts provide sources of historic objects for student work, placement and work experience opportunities and specialist advice.

Section 3: Programme Outcomes

Programme-level learning outcomes are identified below.

Refer to *Appendix I - Curriculum Map* for details of how outcomes are deployed across the programme.

3.1 Knowledge and understanding

On successful completion of the Masters of Historic Objects a student will be able to:

- A1 Apply understanding of materials science, processes of deterioration, historic technologies to decision-making related to the conservation of complex historic objects;
- A2 Apply understanding of cultural theory art and design history, conservation ethics and aesthetics to the contextualisation of complex historic objects;
- A3 Apply management theories to the management of conservation and collections;
- A4 Demonstrate a high level of understanding of research methodologies;
- A5 Demonstrate a high level of understanding of recording methodologies;
- A6 Demonstrate a high level of understanding of theories, investigation, analysis and testing applicable to conservation / conservation science / preventive conservation / collection management.

3.2 Subject specific skills and attributes

On successful completion of the Masters of Historic Objects a student will be able to:

- B1 Assess items in terms of materials, technology and condition;
- B2 Choose appropriate treatments for a range of complex historic objects from Social History, Ethnographic and Decorative Arts contexts, and be able to develop conservation plans for items presenting complex problems;
- B3 Plan and execute a treatment programme for a range of complex historic objects, demonstrating an advanced level of practical expertise, and evaluate work produced;
- B4 Produce documentation associated with the practice of conservation to a high standard, using relevant high-quality drawings and photographs, and computer techniques;
- B5 Advise on the best techniques to use in ensuring an environment suitable to the storage and / or display of artefacts, the management of conservation and the care of collections;
- B6 Apply ethical guidelines and standards pertinent to the conservation of cultural property;
- B7 Develop and implement preventive conservation procedures for items presenting complex problems.

3.3 Transferable skills and attributes

On successful completion of the Masters of Historic Objects a student will be able to:

- C1 Demonstrate effective communication skills;
- C2 Demonstrate effective IT skills;
- C3 Demonstrate effective problem solving;
- C4 Demonstrate effective time management;
- C5 Demonstrate effective project management;
- C6 Demonstrate effective research skills;
- C7 Demonstrate effective skills in improving own learning and self management;
- C8 Demonstrate effective professional skills.

Section 4: Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

4.1 Learning and Teaching strategy

The teaching and learning strategy adopted within the Masters in the Conservation of Historic Objects is based on an assumption that students come from a background which will provide them with understanding of theories, concepts and methodologies on which the discipline of conservation is based. Some students are already employed within conservation and are using the course for continuing professional development and all will have a mature and independent attitude to their studies.

Teaching and learning strategies utilise this pool of expertise and facilitate development within the discipline to an advanced level. Much work is thus based around seminar activity, practical and research activity supported by 1:1 tutorial and the use of case study and problem-solving exercises to introduce contextual parameters.

A student who is working in the conservation profession may choose to use a project from their workplace to submit for a practical assignment and such students are expected to give tutors regular up-dates and will receive support and guidance where appropriate by email.

The learning culminates in the production of a substantial research project.

4.2 Assessment strategy

The programme utilises a full range of assessment fitting to a Masters level qualification including essays, reports, practical work, seminar presentation and research project / dissertation.

Where a student employed in Conservation submits a project from their work, the module tutor will, where practicable, endeavour to make a visit as part of the assessment process.

Appendix II - Assessment Map gives an indication of the scheduling and distribution of assessment modes within the programme. Details of module assessment strategy are included with each module specification.

Section 5: Programme Structure

The Masters in the Conservation of Historic Objects

Table 1 Programme structure

Masters	Interpreting Objects	Collection Management	Negotiated Theory and Practice 1	Post Graduate Certificate
	15 Credits	15 Credits	30 Credits	
	Research Methods in Conservation	Conservation Management/ Professional Studies	Negotiated Theory and Practice II	Post Graduate Diploma
	15 Credits	15 Credits	30 Credits	
	Research Project			Masters
	60 Credits			

Table 1 Programme structure illustrates the module composition of the Masters of the Conservation of Historic Objects.

There is a sequential and coherent progression in the student's learning throughout the programme structure. Theory and practical study in semester A are object centred and teaching in small groups will maximise learning opportunities.

In semester B, students may negotiate an element of advanced specialism, as part of the Negotiated Theory and Practical module. The students ability to plan and execute a programme of treatment, to engage with advanced theoretical study and to apply an understanding of the concepts related to the management of conservation is consolidated in semester B study units.

The emphasis of the programme the professional context, on conservation management and collection management is fundamental to a study at masters level. The module Research Methods in Conservation prepares the student for personal research and advanced self directed study required in the summer semester research project which will be student devised and supported by tutorials with the project supervisor.

There are opportunities throughout the programme to add to personal professional skills and students are supported to consider their personal development planning. This feature is prominent in the Conservation Management/ Professional Studies module and also underpins choices made in Negotiated Theory and Practice II and Research Project.

For details of each module contributing to the programme, please consult the individual module specifications.

Section 6: Regulatory Framework

The Master programme is operated under the policy and regulatory frameworks of the University of Lincoln. The latest versions of all regulations and policies can be found on the Secretariat area of the Portal.

6.1 Admissions

University Regulations (University of Lincoln, current edition)
Admissions Policy (University of Lincoln, current edition)
Accreditation of Prior Learning Policy (University of Lincoln, current edition)

6.2 Assessment

Masters Progression Regulations (University of Lincoln, current edition)

6.3 Progression

Masters Progression Regulations (University of Lincoln, current edition)

6.4 Placement

N/A

6.5 Study abroad

International Cooperation Policy (University of Lincoln, current edition)

6.6 Student support and guidance

Student Support and Tutoring Policy (University of Lincoln, current edition)

6.7 Off-campus delivery

Academic Partnerships Policy (University of Lincoln, current edition)

6.8 Ethical Issues

Ethical Guidelines (University of Lincoln, current edition)

6.9 Equal Opportunities

Equality and Diversity Policy (University of Lincoln, current edition)

Appendix I - Curriculum Map

This table indicates which modules assume responsibility for delivering and assessing (✓) particular programme learning outcomes.

Level	Module	Programme outcome																						
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	
Master	Interpreting Objects		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
	Collections Management		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
	Negotiated Theory and Practice 1		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Research Methods in Conservation					✓	✓		✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
	Conservation Management/ Professional Studies				✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
	Negotiated Theory and Practice 11		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Research Project		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Appendix II - Assessment Map

This table indicates the modality of module assessment within the Masters in the Conservation of Historic Objects. Percentages indicate assessment weighting. Shading indicates examination (as opposed to in-course assessment). Where assessment is group based, the entry is decorated with the letter 'G'. Those in italics are where the assessment may be spread across a number of weeks, such as presentations.

Level	Module	Week														
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Masters	Interpreting Objects									25				75		
	Collections Management													100		
	Negotiated Theory and Practice I														100	
	Research Methods in Conservation												100			
	Conservation Management/ Professional Studies											100				
	Negotiated Theory and Practice II													100		
	Research Project															100

Appendix III - Benchmarking Analysis

This table summarises the key features of *Programme Title*, with the particular aim of demonstrating the mapping between programme learning outcomes and the QAA benchmark statement for the subject of *Subject*.

NB There are no QAA benchmarks for the subject of Conservation and Restoration but the guidelines below indicate where modules can be used to support preparation for the Professional Accreditation of Conservator- Restorer

Programme outcome	Aspect of the subject benchmark statement addressed
A1 Interpreting Objects	Professional judgement and ethics ii, iii, x,
A2 Collections Management	Primary conservation - restoration standards 1, 4.
A3 Negotiated Theory and Practice 1	Primary conservation - restoration standards 1, 2, 3, 4
A4	
A5	
B1 Research Methods in Conservation	Professional judgement and ethics iii
B2 Conservation Management/ Professional Studies	General Professional Standards 5, 6
B3 Negotiated Theory and Practice 11	Primary conservation - restoration standards 1, 2, 3, 4
B4	
B5	
C1 Research Project	Dependent on choice of subject
C2	
C3	
C4	
C5	

