

**SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CONSERVATION
[MSc(Conservation)]**

AR54/819

(These syllabuses are applicable to candidates who are admitted to the Master of Science in Conservation in the 2019-20 academic year and thereafter)

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)

The syllabus is to be taken as prescribed within the two-year part-time programme or the one-year full-time programme.

During the first year of the part-time programme, students complete eight compulsory core courses. During the second year of the part-time programme, students take six compulsory core courses. The core courses include a minimum of 72 contact hours of practical training and a 10,000-word dissertation on an approved topic.

Fieldwork is an integral part of each core course.

FIRST YEAR CORE COURSES

Students are required to complete all First Year Core Courses before advancing to Second Year Core Courses. Assessment of all courses: 100% continuous coursework assessment

CONS8103. Charters and legislation of conservation (6 credits)

This course introduces the guiding principles and legal framework for heritage conservation, as established in international charters and regional legislation, and examines in particular detail their application in Hong Kong, Macao, Mainland China and Southeast Asia.

CONS8104. Management and practice in conservation (6 credits) (Capstone experience)

This course, which incorporates a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) workshop, focuses on preparing a conservation management plan (CMP) for a heritage building or site, as well as on management problems unique to conservation projects in Hong Kong, Macao, Mainland China and Southeast Asia. It explores the responsibilities of heritage practitioners in carrying out conservation work from project planning and implementation to post-project management. Drawing on actual cases from overseas and Hong Kong, students have the opportunity to consolidate their understanding of the entire conservation process.

CONS8107. Field study II: South China or East Asia (6 credits)

This field study in southern China or an East Asian country, with input by local governmental or private conservation experts, provides in-depth understanding of the relationship of conservation efforts to cultural tourism and sustainable development. The field study, which takes place near the end of the academic year, is also an opportunity for students to use their knowledge in cultural heritage conservation to assist local stakeholders in specific conservation-related initiatives.

CONS8108. Cultural mapping workshop (6 credits)

This course is a workshop that focuses on the techniques and values of Cultural Mapping as a crucial tool in conserving and managing the tangible and intangible cultural resources of a community. Students will learn and apply the techniques and activities of community-based participatory data collection and management.

CONS8109. Cultural landscapes (6 credits)

This course focuses on understanding heritage places using the concept of cultural landscapes – landscapes that reflect distinctive patterns of interaction between people and the natural environment. The course examines the current theory and practice of cultural landscapes, especially within the context of Hong Kong, Macao, Mainland China and Southeast Asia.

CONS8110. Architectural heritage and its significance (6 credits)

This course focuses on heritage buildings and sites in relation to their settings within a socio-cultural context. Emphasis is placed on the built heritage of Hong Kong, Macao and Mainland China. Case studies are used to illustrate the process of understanding of the heritage values of these buildings and sites, and how to use these values to prepare a Statement of Significance as part of a conservation plan.

CONS8111. Field study I: Macao (3 credits)

This field study, with input by officials from Macao SAR Government's conservation agency, Instituto Cultural do Governo da R.A.E. de Macau (Cultural Affairs Bureau), provides in-depth understanding of the local effort in carrying out conservation.

CONS8112. Repair and restoration of heritage buildings (6 credits) (Capstone experience)

The objectives of this course are: to learn how to identify building materials, their condition, defects, and recommend remedial action where required; to introduce traditional materials and techniques of building conservation used in both Chinese and Western cultures; and to learn how natural processes and inappropriate human intervention can cause deterioration of building materials as well as how using best-practice conservation techniques can protect and restore the fabric of heritage buildings. Led by a qualified conservationist, this hands-on experiential learning approach with local field studies, enables students to acquire competency in the technical aspects of conservation.

SECOND YEAR CORE COURSES

Students are required to complete all Second Year Core Courses and one Second Year Elective Course to complete their studies. Assessment of all courses: 100% continuous coursework assessment

CONS8201. Research methods in conservation (3 credits)

This seminar course examines the major methodologies employed in effective conservation research. This course provides students with the fundamentals for the preparation of their compulsory dissertation.

CONS8203. Practical training in conservation (6 credits)

This course offers students the opportunity to undertake practical on-site training in a conservation project (for a minimum of 72 contact hours). Students may be placed with a government agency, an academic institution or an NGO in Hong Kong, Macao, Mainland China or an overseas country.

CONS8205. Dissertation (18 credits) (Capstone experience)

The ACP dissertation, of around 10,000 words, is a textual and graphic presentation of a student's theoretical and technical understanding of a particular topic of architectural conservation. It is designed as a means for a student to pursue a particular aspect of architectural conservation and present it in publishable form. For future doctoral students, the dissertation can be used as a primer for preparing their doctoral research.

CONS8206. Seminar in heritage conservation (6 credits)

This course gives students the opportunity to explore contemporary issues and challenges in the field of heritage conservation within a seminar environment. Using a series of conservation-related readings, students are asked to analyse and debate differing points of views, based on their previous course work and their understanding of regional practice.

CONS8023. Field study III: world heritage sites in Asia (6 credits) (Capstone experience)

This field study takes students to listed and/or proposed UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Asia to better understand their management. Key issues are addressed, such as the retention of authenticity, proper site interpretation and presentation, and the impact of tourism on the local community and economy.

CONS8027. Heritage interpretation in conservation (6 credits)

This advanced course provides a detailed understanding of the theory, methodology and application of interpreting cultural heritage sites. This course is particularly useful for learning the "how-to" of setting up interpretative materials for heritage buildings and sites as well as heritage-themed exhibitions.