

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	MA Conservation of the Historic Environment
2	BCU Course Code	PT0986
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC)

6	Course Description
	<p>This Conservation of the Historic Environment course will help you obtain key knowledge in the conservation of buildings and the historic environment with practical skills-based workshops and lectures.</p> <p>Our alumni find employment as conservation officers and consultants, and can apply via their professional body to become accredited conservation architects, engineers and surveyors, as well as skilled conservation contractors.</p> <p>The programme is recognised as having the biggest cohort in the country (Conservation Course Directors Forum 2016). Accredited by the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC), if you need to understand a building or landscape in order to apply appropriate conservation techniques managing change in the historic environment, this course is for you.</p> <p>It is based on the modern campus of Parkside in Birmingham where new meets old, with access to historic campus buildings such as the wonderful School of Art, the first municipal College of Art in the country, and the School of Jewellery in the world-renowned Jewellery Quarter.</p> <p>What's covered in the course?</p> <p>Through introducing a range of different skillsets and disciplines, our course gives you the skills to become a professional within the field of historic building conservation.</p> <p>The foundations of conservation are introduced through firstly establishing the basic concepts, understanding the philosophical, legal and historical aspects of British buildings. During a series of site visits, such as to the conservation areas of Digbeth, the Jewellery Quarter and Bournville, this learning is applied to the real environment.</p> <p>You will experience an emphasis on practical learning within the course as you attend a series of workshops focussing on building materials. You will explore and acquire a range of specialist industry skills in areas such as the use of lime, stone, timber, ceramic building materials, ferrous and non-ferrous metals and twentieth-century design.</p> <p>As well as instilling the fundamental skills needed to be a professional in the field of conservation, the course also prides itself on producing professionals that are able to manage</p>

	<p>and lead a project from visualisation and design, through to implementation. The second year provides insights into the realities of a project, such as ensuring sustainability and financial viability, encouraging forward-thinking professionals that are able to see a project through to completion. There is a particular emphasis on climate literacy.</p> <p>The second year also focuses on building elements and the historic environment, including working in a range of environments from historic interiors, parks and gardens to exploring the heritage of canals. Traditional and advanced techniques of recording buildings including laser scanning and photogrammetry are taught. The course has its own thermal cameras which students are encouraged to experiment with.</p> <p>A dissertation at the end of the second year brings together all of the knowledge, perspectives and practical skills that you have developed whilst on the course, and provides the opportunity to specialise in an area of conservation that you have found most stimulating.</p>
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7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Masters of Arts Conservation of the Historic Environment	7	180
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Postgraduate Certificate Conservation of the Historic Environment	7	60
	Postgraduate Diploma Conservation of the Historic Environment	7	120

8	Derogation from the University Regulations		
	Not applicable		

9	Delivery Patterns			
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
	Part Time	City Centre	2 years	PT0986

10	Entry Requirements			
	<p>The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/.</p>			

11 Course Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge & Understanding	
1	Demonstrate a comprehensive and critical understanding of techniques/methodologies appropriate to their own research or advanced scholarship in conservation.
2	Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in conservation of the historic environment.
3	Demonstrate a systematic and critical understanding of the breadth and depth of knowledge in the discipline and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is aimed at, or informed by, the forefront of their academic discipline or area of professional practice in conservation.
4	As appropriate to conservation, has the awareness and ability to manage the implications of ethical dilemmas and work pro-actively with others to formulate solutions.
Cognitive & Intellectual Skills	
5	Able to integrate and synthesise diverse knowledge, evidence, concepts, theory and practice to promote understanding and/or good practice and solve foreseen and unforeseen problems in conservation.
6	Able to make argued conclusions on the basis of incomplete or contested data.
7	Able to challenge orthodoxy and formulate new/alternative hypotheses or solutions for conservation.
Practical & Professional Skills	
8	Can operate ethically in complex and unpredictable, possibly specialised, situations and has a critical understanding of the issues governing good practice in conservation.
9	Act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.
Key Transferable Skills	
10	Demonstrate independent working ability required for continuing professional development and employment.
11	Communicate complex academic, professional and practical issues of conservation clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
12	Competent in numeracy and IT skills commensurate with the demands of research, scholarship and practice in ways appropriate to the conservation profession.
13	Collaborate effectively with others in ways appropriate to the professional/academic context.

12	Course Requirements																			
12a	Level 7: <i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 180 credits):</i>																			
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Module Code</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Module Name</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ARC7450</td> <td>Basic Conservation Concepts</td> <td style="text-align: center;">40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ARC7452</td> <td>Conservation of Historic Materials: Practical</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ARC7451</td> <td>Project Design and Management</td> <td style="text-align: center;">40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ARC7456</td> <td>Building Elements and the Historic Environment:</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ADM7000</td> <td>Major Project</td> <td style="text-align: center;">60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	ARC7450	Basic Conservation Concepts	40	ARC7452	Conservation of Historic Materials: Practical	20	ARC7451	Project Design and Management	40	ARC7456	Building Elements and the Historic Environment:	20	ADM7000	Major Project	60	
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ADM7000	Major Project	60																		

12b Structure Diagram

MA (180 Credits)

Year 1

Basic Conservation Concepts
CORE A
40 Credits

Conservation of Historic Materials Practical
CORE B
20 Credits
A portfolio of three of the workshops listed below:
1. The use of lime in historic buildings
2. The conservation and repair of stone
3. Ferrous and non-ferrous metals
4. The conservation of 20th Century buildings
5. Ceramic building materials
6. Non-structural and structural timber

Year 2

Project Design and Management
CORE C
40 Credits
50% Assignment/ 50% Group Project

Building Elements and the Historic Environment Practical
CORE C
20 Credits
A portfolio of two of the workshops listed below:
1. Recording Historic Buildings
2. The conservation of historic interiors
3. The management of traditional estates, parks and gardens
4. Canals – History, heritage and practical issues

Major Project
CORE E
60 Credits
Dissertation

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 7

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	270
Directed Learning	1010
Private Study	520
Total Hours	1800

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	94%
Exam	
In-Person	6%