

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

These amended regulations and syllabuses will apply to students who are admitted in the 2012-13 academic year and thereafter.

(See also General Regulations)

Any publication based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference to the effect that the work was submitted to the University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

Admission requirements

Ar121 The MSc(Conservation) programme is open to postgraduate students and practising professionals. The basic admission requirement is a recognized bachelor degree in a relevant discipline or qualifications deemed to be equivalent.

To be eligible for admission to the curriculum leading to the Master of Science in Conservation, a candidate shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
 - (b) hold a Bachelor's degree in a relevant field of this University or from a comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
 - (c) satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required;
 - (d) demonstrate a good command of spoken and written English as a prerequisite for acceptance.
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Qualifying examination

Ar122

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidate's formal academic ability or his ability to follow the courses of study prescribed;
 - (b) A candidate who is required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until he has satisfied the examiners in the examination.
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Transfer of candidature into the Master of Science in Conservation programme

Ar123 Subject to the approval of the Programme Director, and in consultation with the Internal Examiners, a candidate who has satisfactorily completed the curriculum for either the Postgraduate Diploma in Conservation curriculum at HKU or the Postgraduate Diploma in Cultural Heritage Management at HKU-SPACE, may be permitted to transfer directly to the second year of the part-time MSc(Conservation) programme provided that he

- (a) complies with Regulation Ar121(a) to (d);
- (b) has fulfilled all the examination requirements for the diploma at the first attempt;
- (c) transfers to the MSc(Conservation) programme in the year he is due for the award of the diploma;
- (d) takes two make-up core courses as specified by the Programme Director.

A candidate who has made the transfer from the PDip(Conservation) programme to the MSc(Conservation) programme will not be awarded the PDip(Conservation) diploma.

Award of degree

Ar124 To be eligible for the award of the Master of Science in Conservation, a candidate shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations; and
- (b) complete the curriculum and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.

Length of curriculum

Ar125

- (a) The curriculum for the part-time programme shall extend over two academic years and be equivalent to a total of 400 contact hours: 200 contact hours in the first year (nine compulsory core courses) and 200 contact hours in the second year (four compulsory core courses and two elective courses).
 - (b) The curriculum for the full-time programme shall extend over one academic year and be equivalent to a total of 400 contact hours (thirteen compulsory core courses and two elective courses).
 - (c) The maximum duration of registration for the one-year, full-time MSc(Conservation) curriculum is 2 years, and for the two-year, part-time curriculum is 3 years.
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Completion of curriculum

Ar126 To complete the curriculum, a candidate shall

- (a) satisfactorily complete all written work including the dissertation;
 - (b) attend all field trips and complete all assigned fieldwork;
 - (c) satisfy the examiners in all examinations as may be required.
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Course selection

Ar127

- (a) In the first year of the part-time programme, a candidate must take nine compulsory core courses.
 - (b) In the second year of the part-time programme, a candidate must take four core courses and two elective courses, the choice of which shall be made in consultation with the Programme Director and the Programme Coordinator, and be subject to the approval of the Programme Director;
 - (c) In the full-time programme, a candidate must take thirteen compulsory core courses and two elective courses, the choice of which shall be made in consultation with the Programme Director and the Programme Coordinator, and be subject to the approval of the Programme Director;
 - (d) Subject to the approval of the Programme Director, a candidate may in exceptional circumstances be permitted to select elective courses from an institution recognized by the Department of Architecture other than from the postgraduate courses offered by The University of Hong Kong.
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Graduation or advancement to second-year MSc(Conservation)

Ar128

- (a) A first-year candidate of the part-time programme must complete all courses to the satisfaction of the examiners before he is allowed to advance to the second year, unless special permission is given by the Programme Director to allow the candidate to complete the outstanding courses concurrently with the second year curriculum;
 - (b) A candidate of the full-time programme must complete all courses to the satisfaction of the examiners before he is allowed to graduate;
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Practical training

Ar129

- (a) A candidate shall choose the organization in which he is to carry out the practical training from a list of organizations approved or recommended by the Programme Director.
- (b) At the end of his/her practical training, a candidate is required to
 - (i) submit a practical-training report for review and assessment by the Board of Examiners; and
 - (ii) obtain a completion of practical training letter from the candidate's practical training supervisor (who must hold a senior managerial, executive or technical position in the organization the candidate has carried out his practical training) certifying the candidate's

satisfactory completion of his practical training. This letter, which forms part of the assessment of the candidate's practical training performance, shall be included as the first page of the practical training report.

- (c) A candidate who has failed to satisfactorily complete his practical training requirement or has not completed the required minimum of 72 contact hours of practical training, but has satisfactorily completed other parts of the curriculum, shall be required to satisfactorily complete a minimum of 72 contact hours of practical training in the following academic year before he may be awarded the MSc(Conservation), and the number of hours the candidate has already performed in the practical training in the previous year shall not be carried forward.
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Dissertation

Ar130

- (a) A candidate shall submit the title of his dissertation by a date specified by the Programme Director. A candidate may submit his dissertation after the successful completion of his coursework, and shall submit it not later than the end of September of the year, unless special permission is granted by the Board of Examiners;
 - (b) A candidate shall submit a statement that the dissertation represents his own work (or in the case of conjoint work, a statement countersigned by his co-worker, which shows his share of the work) undertaken after the registration as a candidate for the degree.
 - (c) The preferred length of the dissertation shall be between 10,000 and 20,000 words.
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Examinations

Ar131

- (a) Every examinable assignment including the conservation plan and the dissertation must be submitted within the stipulated deadline or within a final extended deadline approved by the Programme Director in consultation with the Internal Examiners.
- (b) A candidate of the part-time programme who has failed in not more than two courses in his first-year or second-year of studies, or a candidate of the full-time programme who has failed in not more than two courses in his studies, shall be permitted to present himself for re-examination.
- (c) If he fails in the re-examination at the second attempt, he shall be required to repeat the entire course(s) in the following academic year, and present himself for the final re-examination at the third attempt before he can be considered for advancement or graduation. If a course that the candidate is required to repeat is not available in the following academic year, the candidate shall take an alternative course of instruction as specified by the Programme Director and take the prescribed examination(s). This will constitute the final attempt.
- (d) A candidate shall be recommended for discontinuation of studies under General Regulation G12 if
 - (i) he fails to satisfy the examiners in more than two courses at the first attempt; or
 - (ii) he fails to satisfy the examiners in any course at the third attempt; or
 - (iii) he fails to satisfy the examiners in an alternative course under the circumstances as described in Ar131(c);
 - (iv) he fails to submit any examinable assignment including the practical training report and the dissertation within the final extended deadline stipulated by the Programme Director and the Internal Examiners.
- (e) Subject to the recommendation of the Programme Director, a candidate who fails to complete his dissertation after two extensions, but has satisfactorily completed all other courses, may in exceptional circumstances be considered for award of the PDip(Conservation) diploma.

Examination results

Ar132

- (a) At the conclusion of the examinations, and after presentation of practical-training reports, supervisors' letters and dissertations, a pass list of candidates awarded the Master of Science in Conservation shall be published. A candidate who has passed all the required courses in the curriculum at the first attempt and scored distinctions in more than half of these courses will be placed on the Dean's List and a mark of distinction shall be recorded in the candidate's degree diploma.
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SYLLABUS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CONSERVATION (MSc[Conservation])

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 nine compulsory core courses. During the second year of the part-time programme, students will be streamed into either the Management Stream or the Technical Stream, based on their academic and professional background. Within each stream, students take four compulsory core courses and two elective courses (not previously taken) from the list of specified electives. The core courses include a minimum of 72 contact hours of practical training and a 10,000- to 20,000-word dissertation on an approved topic.

Fieldwork is an integral part of each core course.

There are 400 contact hours in the MSc(Conservation) programme. For the part-time programme, the contact hours are broken down into 200 hours in the first year and 200 hours in the second year. 100% attendance is required for all courses. A candidate may be required to make up missed course lectures and fieldwork in the following year.

FIRST YEAR CORE COURSES

ARCH8101 Conservation workshop (3 units)

This is a hands-on course conducted in a workshop environment. The course investigates the design and technical challenges of upgrading heritage buildings to meet statutory as well as adaptive reuse requirements. It also examines the macro design and planning issues of integrating heritage buildings and conservation districts into new developments.

ARCH8102 Architectural heritage and the built environment (3 units)

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 in Hong Kong, Macau and Mainland China. Case studies are used to illustrate the process of understanding of the cultural values of heritage buildings and sites, and how to use these values to create a viable conservation plan.

ARCH8103 Charters and legislation of conservation (3 units)

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, Macau, Mainland China and Southeast Asia.

ARCH8104 Management and practice in conservation (3 units)

This course focuses on the management problems unique to conservation projects in Hong Kong, Macau, Mainland China and Southeast Asia, and explores the responsibilities of heritage practitioners in carrying out conservation work from project planning and implementation to post-project management.

ARCH8105 Materials and techniques of conservation (3 units)

This course investigates the properties of traditional and modern materials commonly encountered in heritage structures in Hong Kong, Macau and Mainland China, and examines a range of techniques that are appropriate for conservation work in the Far East region.

ARCH8106 Field study I: Macau (1 unit)

This 2-day field study, with input by officials from Macau SAR Government's conservation agency, Instituto Cultural de Macau, provides in-depth understanding of the local effort in carrying out conservation for cultural tourism and sustainable development.

ARCH8107 Field study II: South China or East Asia (3 units)

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.

ARCH8109 Cultural landscapes (3 units)

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, Macau, Mainland China and Southeast Asia.

ARCH8111 Conservation management plan workshop (3 units)

This course focuses on preparing a conservation management plan as an essential component of the Heritage Impact Assessment for a heritage building or site. Drawing on actual cases from overseas and Hong Kong, students have the opportunity to consolidate their understanding of the entire conservation process.

SECOND YEAR CORE COURSES

ARCH8201 Research methods in conservation (3 units)

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

ARCH8203 Practical training in conservation I (3 units)

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 a NGO in Hong Kong, Macau, Mainland China or an overseas country.

ARCH8205 Dissertation (9 units)

The dissertation is a textual and graphic presentation of a student's philosophical and technical understanding of a particular aspect 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.

ARCH8206 Seminar in heritage conservation (3 units)

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 analyze and debate differing points of views, based on their previous course work and their understanding of regional practice.

ELECTIVE COURSES FOR THE MANAGEMENT STREAM

Please note that enrolment to a particular stream is subject to the approval of the Programme Director.

ARCH8022 Topics in heritage conservation (3 units)

This course, whose topics vary from year to year, focuses on subjects that will help to enhance the understanding of heritage conservation within the cultural context of Hong Kong, Macau, Mainland China and/or Southeast Asia.

ARCH8023 Field study III: world heritage sites in Asia (3 units)

This 5- to 8-day field study takes students to listed and/or proposed UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Asia to better understand their management, such as the retention of authenticity, the proper site interpretation and presentation, and the impact of tourism on the local community and economy. (Please note that this elective normally requires a minimum of 15 students.)

ARCH8027 Cultural mapping workshop (3 units)

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.

ELECTIVE COURSES FOR THE TECHNICAL STREAM

Please note that enrolment to a particular stream is subject to the approval of the Programme Director.

ARCH8026 Adaptive reuse of heritage buildings (3 units)

This course explores the most current design thinking and construction technology applied in the adaptive reuse of heritage buildings. The course will also explore how such applications can appropriately revitalize heritage buildings with new uses in Hong Kong and other places in China. This course is limited to students with academic or professional backgrounds in architecture, engineering and building surveying.

ARCH8202 Advanced materials and techniques of conservation (3 units)

This advanced course investigates traditional and modern materials and their conservation techniques in depth, building on the content of core course ARCH 8105. The course will include field experience on conservation project sites and guest-lectures by highly qualified conservation specialists.

ARCH8204 Practical training in conservation II (3 units)

This course offers students the opportunity to undertake technical-oriented 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 a NGO in Hong Kong, Macau, Mainland China or an overseas country, which may be different from the one in which they have carried out their required 72-hour practical training for the core course ARCH8203.

SPECIAL ELECTIVE COURSE

Please note that enrolment to the Special Elective is subject to the approval of the Programme Director.

ARCH8024 Special conservation seminar

This special seminar, which consists of workshops and lectures, is designed for achieving a broad understanding of built-heritage conservation. It is specifically meant for fee-paying members of the civil service and the general public.
