

Faculty of Arts and Letters



ARKE2230 Conservation of Archaeological Heritage : Antiquity

[15h] 2 credits

This two-yearly course is taught in 2006-2007, 2008-2009,...

This course is taught in the 1st semester

Teacher(s): Marco Cavaliéri
Language: French
Level: Second cycle

Aims

At the end of the course, the student will be able :

- to distinguish the objectives, the foundations and the stakes of conservation-restoration, including the responsibilities of the archaeologist towards the heritage that he/she helps to create ;
- to define the first measures of conservation to be taken on an excavation site as well as the methods of material stocking while waiting for treatment ;
- . to put forward a critical point of view in the choice and the planning :
 - of a conservation-restoration treatment operated by a specialized laboratory ;
 - of an arrangement formula for an archaeological site or an historic monument ;
- to analyse the circumstances necessary for the survival, the integrity, and the accessibility of archaeological heritage.

Main themes

The course develops the principles and methods of conservation-restoration of Ancient archaeological heritage, transferable and real estate, and the materials that constitute it (wood, terracotta, glass, metal, paint coatings, mosaics). General conservation policy, international agreements, and safety measures against damage will also be presented.

Content and teaching methods

Content : - the conservation-restoration of archaeological heritage : definition and objectives ; the responsibilities of the archaeologist for heritage ; - The deontological principles of conservation-restoration : the Charter of Venice and the International Charter for the management of archaeological heritage ; - The practical methods of conservation-restoration and their risks, from the site to the gallery.

1. The traumatism of excavation.
2. The materials found in excavation (organic materials, ceramics, glass, metal, paint coatings, mosaic) : changes and deteriorations, treatment in the field, stocking, treatment in the laboratory.
3. The monuments and the sites (archaeological and historical) : causes of deterioration, conservation and arrangement for the public, material and formal genuineness.

Method : theoretical lectures alternating with critical case studies, based on a specific illustration.

Other information (prerequisite, evaluation (assessment methods), course materials recommended readings, ...)

Oral examination on the knowledge of the principles of conservation-restoration and the comprehension of treatments and essential processes operated in the field and in the laboratory.

Synopsis of the course with a bibliography and texts of the principal international agreements.

Visit to a scientific establishment of conservation-restoration (in 2001 : laboratories of the Service des Fouilles in Namur).

Programmes in which this activity is taught

ARKE2M1 Master en histoire de l'art et archéologie, orientation générale

Other credits in programs

ARKE21	Première licence en histoire de l'art et archéologie	(2 credits)
ARKE22	Deuxième licence en histoire de l'art et archéologie	(2 credits)
ARKE2M1	Master en histoire de l'art et archéologie, orientation générale	(2 credits)