



## DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

### **KKV700 Current Issues in Conservation, 7.5 credits**

Kulturvård och konservering - samtida utmaningar, 7,5 högskolepoäng

*Second Cycle*

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#### **Confirmation**

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Conservation on 2019-11-05 and was last revised on 2021-08-23 to be valid from 2021-08-23, autumn semester of 2021.

*Field of education:* Design 50% and Fine Arts 50%

*Department:* Department of Conservation

#### **Position in the educational system**

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Conservation with Specialization in Conservation of Cultural Heritage Objects, Master's Program (N2KVP)

##### *Main field of studies*

Conservation with Specialization in Conservation of Cultural Heritage Objects

Conservation

##### *Specialization*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

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#### **Entry requirements**

To be eligible for admission to this course, the student must have a Bachelor's Degree in Conservation with Specialisation in Conservation of Art and Cultural Heritage.

#### **Learning outcomes**

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

*Knowledge and understanding*

- Identify and discuss factors affecting decision-making in conservation
- Identify theoretical, practical and ethical implications of decisions taken in relation to the treatment of an object/heritage asset
- Analyse and take decisions based on complex interweaved factors relevant to a conservation project, for example gender and sustainability factors

#### *Competence and skills*

- Explain complex processes to relevant stakeholders to a conservation project
- Assess options for a project and develop strategies based on negotiations with stakeholders
- Illustrate critical, innovative and creative thinking in relation to conservation projects
- Demonstrate communication, collaboration and negotiation skills

#### *Judgement and approach*

- Justify context-specific decisions in conservation of cultural heritage
- Present complex cases and project outcomes in diverse audiences
- Propose alternative options for conservation treatments to diverse stakeholders

The course is sustainability-related, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria.

#### **Course content**

This course aims to develop critical thinking in relation to the conservation of complex objects and heritage assets. The course will cover contemporary theory in conservation and use complex case-studies to juxtapose ideas and attitudes which affect treatment outcomes and different stakeholders. It will encourage the students to develop an informed way of deciding on conservation treatments adopting an open-minded, flexible and creative approach based on thorough understanding of all possible factors affecting the condition, interpretation and understanding of an object making use of scientific data as well as considering social and cross-cultural parameters. It will discuss the different roles a conservator needs to play and will help students develop skills. The course will encourage students to reflect on their own decision-making processes and

analyse their decisions in relation to a project/object they worked on. Which were the defining factors in each case? Were all possible alternatives considered?

The course will be delivered through lectures, seminars, workshops, and individual and group work following a student-led, inquiry-based approach to develop critical thinking skills.

Resources to be used in the course: presentations and discussions of case studies, visits in museums to discuss artworks of interest with professional conservators. A number of visiting lecturers will be invited to deliver seminars.

### **Form of teaching**

The course will be delivered through lectures, seminars, workshops, and individual and groupwork. Through the lectures and discussion of case studies, the student-led, inquiry-based approach to develop and critical thinking skills.

*Language of instruction:* English

### **Assessment**

The assessment will be divided into two parts, a presentation related to a case study in conservation and a written assignment.

Examination 1: Seminars (2.5hp)

Examination 2: Individual assessment (5hp)

If a student, who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

### **Grades**

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

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For grade Pass (G) requires that the student has fulfilled the learning outcomes of the course with G on both assignments (presentation and written assignment).

For grade Pass with Distinction (VG) requires a G on the presentation and a VG on the written report.

A student who has failed two examinations on a course is entitled to have another examiner appointed if possible. Request must be made in writing to the Department of Conservation.

**Course evaluation**

The results of and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and students who are starting the course.