



Study Course
Cultural Heritage Studies

Department of Cultural Theory and History /
UNESCO Chair on Intangible Cultural Heritage Policy and Law

General Information

Code	---
Course title	Cultural Heritage Studies
Course level	Undergraduate / Graduate
Course type	Academic
Field of study	Arts
Author of the course	Adj. Prof., Dr. art. Anita Vaivade
Course Instructor	
Credit Points	6 ECTS
Language of Instruction	EN
Abstract	The study course gives introduction to cultural heritage studies, with an objective to raise students' awareness and provide insights into heritage-making and valuing, development of heritage policies, modes of heritage preservation and safeguarding, community participation and institutionalisation practices. The study course puts emphasis on international cooperation, policies and normative instruments and their application, and draws attention to political, economic, social and other aspects of cultural heritage preservation and safeguarding.
Aim and objectives of the course	<p>The study course aims at advancing students' knowledge on the history of global international policy-making on cultural heritage, institutions involved at global international, regional, national and local levels within heritage preservation and safeguarding, interconnection between heritage policies and other fields of policy-making, and participation of individuals and communities in heritage preservation and safeguarding processes, including heritage governance.</p> <p>The study course is also aimed at providing insight into recently published scholarly literature in the field of critical heritage studies and taking a look at the documents of heritage institutions. The course is developed for advancing practical skills to work on heritage identification, interpretation and governance issues. Therefore, it is based on case studies and problem-solving tasks, and students are invited to discuss cultural heritage protection, accessibility, research and awareness-raising.</p>
Structure and tasks of independent studies	<p>The study course includes 16 classes (32 academic hours), partly planned as study visits to memory institutions (museums, archives and/or libraries) or other heritage institutions, as well as providing a study walk for examining heritage issues in the cityscape of Riga. The course also includes a set of seminars for debating study tasks accomplished by students. Thus, it privileges interactivity in the form of discussions, largely based on the students' involvement.</p> <p>Seminars of the course are mainly based on case studies and practical exercises, responding to students' interests in the heritage field. Participation at classes and at study visits during semester is asked (at least 3/4 of classes), and the set of requirements for credit points is to be accomplished.</p>

Literature ¹	<p><u>Compulsory</u></p> <p>Adell, Nicolas, Regina F. Bendix, Chiara Bortolotto et al. (Eds.). <i>Between Imagined Communities and Communities of Practice: Participation, Territory and the Making of Heritage</i>. Göttingen Studies in Cultural Property, Volume 9. Göttingen: Universitätsverlag Göttingen, 2015. (open source)²</p> <p>Bendix, Regina F., Aditya Eggert, Arnika Peselmann (Eds.). <i>Heritage Regimes and the State</i>. Göttingen Studies in Cultural Property, Volume 6. Göttingen: Universitätsverlag Göttingen, 2012. (open source)</p> <p>Blake, Janet. <i>International Cultural Heritage Law</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015. (National Library of Latvia)</p> <p>Smith, Laurajane and Natsuko Akagawa (Eds.). <i>Intangible Heritage</i>. London, New York: Routledge, 2008. (National Library of Latvia)</p> <p><u>Recommended</u></p> <p>Akagawa, Natsuko and Laurajane Smith (Eds.). <i>Safeguarding Intangible Heritage: Practices and Politics</i>. New York: Routledge, 2019. (Latvian Academy of Culture)</p> <p>Antons, Christoph, William Logan (Eds.). <i>Intellectual Property, Cultural Property and Intangible Cultural Heritage</i>. New York: Routledge, 2018. (Latvian Academy of Culture)</p> <p>Blake Janet. Gender and Intangible Cultural Heritage. In: <i>Gender Equality. Heritage and Creativity</i>. Paris: UNESCO, 2014. Pp. 48–59. (open source)</p> <p>Hafstein, Valdimar Tr. <i>Making Intangible Cultural Heritage: El Condor Pasa and Other Stories from UNESCO</i>. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2018. (Latvian Academy of Culture)</p> <p>Jacobs, Marc. Bruegel and Burke were here! Examining the criteria implicit in the UNESCO paradigm of safeguarding ICH: the first decade. <i>International Journal of Intangible Heritage</i>. 2014. 9: 100–118. (open source)</p> <p>Jacobs, Marc. The Spirit of the Convention – Interlocking Principles and Ethics for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage. <i>International Journal of Intangible Heritage</i>. 2016. 11: 72–87. (open source)</p> <p>Kuutma, Kristin. Who Owns Our Songs: Authority of Heritage and Resources for Restitution. <i>Ethnologia Europea</i>. Issue Theme: Culture and Property. 2009. 39(2): 26–40. (open source)</p> <p>Lähdesmäki, Tuuli, Suzie Thomas, Yujie Zhu (Eds.). <i>Politics of Scale: New Directions in Critical Heritage Studies</i>. Oxford, New York: Berghahn, 2019. (Latvian Academy of Culture)</p> <p>Prott, Lyndel V. <i>Witnesses to History. A Compendium of Documents and Writings on the Return of Cultural Objects</i>. Paris: UNESCO Publishing, 2009. (Riga Graduate School of Law)</p> <p>Staiff, Russell, Robyn Bushell, Steve Watson (Eds.). <i>Heritage and Tourism: Place, Encounter, Engagement</i>. New York: Routledge, 2013. (Latvian Academy of Culture)</p> <p>Tobin, Brendan. <i>Indigenous Peoples, Customary Law and Human Rights – Why Living Law Matters</i>. London, New York: Routledge, 2016. (Latvian Academy of Culture)</p> <p>Vaivade, Anita. Discursive Legacies of Folklore in International Law. In: Bula, Dace, Sandis Laime (Eds.). <i>Mapping the History of Folklore Studies: Centers, Borderlands and Shared Spaces</i>. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2017. Pp. 306–335. (National Library of Latvia)</p> <p>Waelde, Charlotte et al. (Eds.). <i>Research Handbook on Contemporary Intangible Cultural Heritage: Law and Heritage</i>. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2018. (Latvian Academy of Culture)</p>
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¹ The list of literature may be amended or completed during the study course.

² Information regarding the availability of literature is indicated in brackets.

	<p><u>Additional Sources</u></p> <p>List of normative documents – namely global (UN, UNESCO) and European – and reports will be provided during the course.</p> <p><i>Europeana. Think culture.</i> www.europeana.eu</p> <p><i>Intangible Cultural Heritage. UNESCO.</i> ich.unesco.org</p> <p><i>International Labour Organization, ILO.</i> www.ilo.org</p> <p><i>Memory of the World. UNESCO.</i> en.unesco.org/programme/mow</p> <p><i>UNESCO World Heritage Centre.</i> whc.unesco.org</p> <p><i>World Intellectual Property Organization, WIPO.</i> www.wipo.org</p> <p><i>World Digital Library.</i> www.wdl.org</p>
Course prerequisites	Advanced knowledge of English.

Course Outline

Theme	Number of hours
Heritage-making, identification and valuing practices	4 academic hours
Safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage	4 academic hours
Preservation of documentary heritage	4 academic hours
Digitisation and protection of digital heritage	4 academic hours
Protection of movable cultural objects	4 academic hours
Preservation of immovable cultural properties	4 academic hours
Interconnection among various heritage domains	4 academic hours
Institutionalisation practices and community participation	4 academic hours

Expected learning outcomes and their assessment

Learning outcome	Assessment methods
Acquired knowledge on types of cultural heritage and the history of major international conventions in the field of cultural heritage.	Test
Understanding of specificities of cultural heritage preservation and safeguarding, and of integrated approach to cultural heritage.	Case study
Competences to identify heritage related institutional responsibilities and structures at various levels (local, national, regional, international).	Critical essay
Developed skills to provide argumentation for a position regarding topical issues of cultural heritage identification and interpretation.	Draft decision

Requirements for credit points

Draft decision / on one of the current year's nominations to the UNESCO international intangible cultural heritage lists, to be prepared according to the adopted criteria and practice (1-2 pages).
Critical essay / on a study visit to a memory institution (museum, archive or library) regarding its exposition or collection and a personal visitor's experience, in relation to the objectives of the memory institution in question (up to 1 page).
Case study / on a topical case of conflictual or problematic issues regarding the protection of cultural heritage, providing detailed references to studied sources and their analytical overview (1-2 pages).
Test / on the types of cultural heritage and the history of major international conventions in the field of cultural heritage and respective protection instruments established.