**Latvian Academy of Culture**  
**ERASMUS Programme**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Course</th>
<th>Cultural Heritage Studies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Anita Vaivade</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>At least intermediate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credits (Latvian)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>ECTS Credits</td>
<td>6</td>
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**Description**

The study course provides introduction to cultural heritage studies, with an objective to raise the awareness of students and give an insight into diverse relevant issues, as heritage-making and heritage valuing, development of respective cultural policies, protection and safeguarding modes, as well as community involvement and institutionalisation practices. The study course puts particular emphasis on international cooperation, normative and policy instruments and their application, and debates on cultural heritage preservation, accessibility, research and awareness-raising. Thus, the study course draws attention to political, economic, social and other implications of cultural heritage.

The study course aims at favouring students’ knowledge on 1) historical sequence of global international policy-making in the field of cultural heritage, 2) variety of institutions involved at global international, regional, national and local levels within the protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage, 3) interconnection between cultural heritage policies and other fields of policy-making, and problematic aspects of heritage management, 4) involvement of communities within heritage preservation and safeguarding.

The study course is also aimed at developing skills to get oriented in the most recent scientific literature within the field, including scientific journals, and also in the websites of respective institutions and their documentation.

Cultural heritage studies’ course includes 16 lessons, at least ¼ or 4 lessons of which are planned as study visits to memory institutions (museums, archives or libraries) and other heritage institutions. The following major themes are envisaged to be dealt with during the study course:

1) Heritage-making, identification and valuing practices.  
2) Safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage.  
3) Preservation of documentary heritage.  
4) Protection of digital heritage.  
5) Protection of movable cultural objects.  
6) Preservation of immovable cultural properties.  
7) Interconnection among various heritage domains.  
8) Institutionalisation practices and community involvement.
The course is oriented towards interactive studies, largely based on individual study work, seminars and discussions. Seminars of the course are based on studying theoretical analysis as well as case studies and doing practical exercises, with an oriented on individual interests of investigation.

Participation at classes and study visits during semester is necessary, at least ¾ of classes. Besides seminars and their respective tasks, several individual works are envisaged, namely:

1) **Case study** / written analysis (about 4 pages) and presentation during a seminar (about 10-15 minutes);

2) **Literature analysis** / on a particular theme linked to the study course, and providing detailed list of studied sources (on about 12 to 20 different sources), and analytical overview (about 1 page);

3) **Theoretical research paper** / written (about 8 to 12 pages) and presented during a seminar (about 10-15 minutes).

The details on the named exercise are given at the beginning of the course. The study course is finalised with a brief written **test** on the basic aspects of heritage studies seen during the semester.

### Literature

**1 Normative and policy documents**


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1 The course description contains some basic references, at present serving as examples on the variety of literature available, while more extensive list and additional references may be given during the course.

2 Namely being concentrated on global documents, indicated chronologically, starting with the most recent references.
II Monographs


III Scientific articles and reports


IV Internet sources

*Europeana. Think culture.* [www.europeana.eu](http://www.europeana.eu)


*WIPO.* [www.wipo.org](http://www.wipo.org)

*World Digital Library.* [www.wdl.org](http://www.wdl.org)

Open source literature is being made available to students electronically.

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Riga, February 2015

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