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The University of Manchester

GRADUATE SCHOOL



MUSEOLOGY

POSTGRADUATE: TAUGHT MASTER'S COURSE **2016**
SCHOOL OF ARTS, LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

You're better connected at Manchester

With a breadth of research activity that's unrivalled in the UK, we work across disciplines and beyond the University, connecting the brightest minds to find innovative solutions to the world's greatest challenges.

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“I've been able to make good networks and connections in terms of the work I'm doing and my future career. I've been able to talk to some outstanding professors and read some world-class journals. Manchester has opened my eyes.”

Faith Nanyonga,
Postgraduate student,
The University of Manchester, 2014

 @agms10
 /centre4museology

www.manchester.ac.uk/museology

Welcome to The University of Manchester

Whether you're a committed researcher wanting to further the human quest for knowledge, a career-focused professional seeking a specialist qualification, or a burning enthusiast for higher learning and understanding, a postgraduate degree at The University of Manchester will help you to realise your ambitions.



We make things happen

Our work makes an impact on real lives. We turn enthusiasm into achievement and ground-breaking theory into cutting-edge practice. That's why we're at the forefront of the search for solutions to some of the world's most pressing problems. Studying and researching at Manchester gives you the chance to make a difference, both during your studies and in your future career.

We work closely with organisations ranging from government bodies to global businesses, from local health services to registered charities. From these links spring unique opportunities: we can deliver courses informed by the latest expertise and research programmes that have greater, more immediate impact and value.

We give you excellent prospects

Whether studying for a taught master's or a research degree, you'll be directly involved with cutting-edge research, benefiting from our continuous investment in the best facilities and a dynamic research culture that encourages innovative, cross-disciplinary collaboration.

Our programmes are led by distinguished tutors and fellow researchers working at the forefront of their disciplines, ensuring that your qualification comes with a reputation that will open doors across the world.

You'll also have access to a Careers Service that really understands postgraduates, with specialist advisors, events and resources tailored to your needs.

We offer much more than a degree

At Manchester, you'll find the broadest range of options outside of your studies for developing your interests and experience, including: outstanding sports facilities, skills-development courses, mentoring programmes, community volunteering opportunities and dedicated support for taking part in or setting up a social enterprise.

And you'll be at the heart of the dynamic, multicultural hub that is the city of Manchester, with events, facilities, attractions and opportunities to suit every lifestyle, ambition and budget.

Find out more

www.manchester.ac.uk/discover

www.manchester.ac.uk/research

Manchester is one of Lonely Planet's
Best in Travel Top 10 cities to visit in 2016



Museology at Manchester

Our Centre for Museology is a focus for cross-disciplinary perspectives on museum theory, history and practice within the University. We have a vibrant teaching and research environment where the interests of academic staff, postgraduate students and professional practitioners converge.



Launched in 2002, the Centre for Museology is based in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures at The University of Manchester. We aim to develop teaching and research in museum theory and practice, and to promote academic and professional collaboration with the museum profession across the region, the UK and overseas. Museology works closely with the Centre for Arts Management and Cultural Policy and is part of the Institute for Cultural Practices, an exciting platform for working with cultural partners in teaching and research.

Diverse, multidisciplinary environment

Museology students come from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds, including history, archaeology, art history, fine art, anthropology, classics, education, photography and natural science. Our broad, inclusive programmes benefit from the Centre's links with subject areas within the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures and across the University.

Excellent links with relevant institutions

We have strong working relationships with museums and galleries throughout Britain and abroad, and our teaching is delivered in partnership with The Manchester Museum and the Whitworth Art Gallery, both of which are part of The University of Manchester.

The wealth of museums and collections in Greater Manchester and the north of England make this an excellent place to study museology. Our students undertake projects and work placements at a great variety of institutions, including: Manchester Art Gallery; Harris Museum and Art Gallery, Preston; HOME, Manchester; Henry Moore Institute, Leeds; Lancashire County Museum Service; Tate Liverpool; Liverpool Biennial; Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester; National Museums Liverpool; People's History Museum, Manchester; Imperial War Museum North, Manchester; Salford Art Gallery; and Stockport Museum.

Postgraduate life in the Centre for Museology

Both the Centre for Museology and the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures host a varied programme of activities and events for postgraduate students.

This includes occasional masterclasses and workshops, as well as our regular calendar of:

- Museology research and professional skills seminars
- 'Showcase' seminars at the Manchester Museum
- Institute for Cultural Practices events
- Research forum for PhD students

Taught course

MA in Art Gallery and Museum Studies

Art Gallery and Museum Studies (AGMS) has been taught at The University of Manchester for more than 40 years. It is one of the longest established MA degree courses in museum studies in the country, and our alumni have reached senior positions in museums and galleries throughout the UK and overseas.

Today, the AGMS course is continually being reviewed and developed in response to new research, emerging critical approaches and shifts in museum practice. Our MA teaching is informed by our research activity and AGMS students benefit from the exciting range of projects in which Museology staff are involved. Throughout the degree, you will: examine diverse issues related to museum theory and practice; visit numerous museums, galleries and cultural organisations; and have many opportunities to discuss ideas and issues with professionals and academics in the field. The AGMS course combines both guided and independent study, and includes seminars, guest lectures and site visits.

What you study

Semester one

Full-time AGMS MA students take two core course units: Introduction to Museum Studies and Managing Collections and Exhibitions (30 credits each). These core units are designed to introduce you to key issues and ideas in museum practice, and also to different approaches to the study and analysis of museums.

Semester two

Semester two option course units build on the knowledge and understanding you have gained in semester one, and enable you to develop expertise in a particular disciplinary area of curating, or sphere of museum practice. Full-time students take 60 credits of course units from a menu of options that may include:

- Professional Practice Project: Exhibition/Event (30 credits)
- Art Curating (30 credits)
- Curating Ethnography (15 credits)
- Digital Heritage (15/30 credits)
- Creative Learning: Arts, Heritage and Education (15/30 credits)
- Business Strategies for the Arts (15/30 credits)
- Work Placement (15/30 credits)

Dissertation

The MA concludes with a dissertation (60 credits) on a topic of your choice, agreed in conjunction with your dissertation supervisor. You can either undertake a standard dissertation (12-15,000 words), or a practice-based dissertation. Practice-based dissertations may include:

- Exhibition. An exhibition, show or plan thereof. Outcome – exhibition and/or plan plus 8-10,000 words reflection
- Policy. Student to develop a piece of museum policy. Outcome - policy or report plus max 8-10,000 words reflection.
- Digital/Online (building on skills developed in Digital Curating). Outcome - digital media application plus max 8-10,000 words reflection

Work placement

One of the most popular aspects of this degree course is the work placement in a museum, gallery or cultural organisation. Each placement involves a minimum of 20 days work on a specific project, such as a temporary exhibition, collections management project, or education programme. You can take the work placement either as 15 credit or 30 credit course unit.

Placement projects are arranged by the Centre for Museology. Part-time students who already work in a museum/gallery/cultural institution have the option to create a placement project within their organisation in collaboration with their line manager. Part-time students can do their placement either in Year 1 or Year 2.

Many students find this such a positive experience that they carry on working in their museum when the work placement has finished, and each year a few students are offered jobs by their placement hosts.

Study Details

Most teaching takes place in small interactive seminar groups, involving, as appropriate, directed-reading, fieldwork in museums and galleries, staff and student presentations, discussion, debate, problem-solving and group-work.

Most courses run one day/week over 12 weeks and there are variations in the number of class hours per teaching day depending on the course/week (i.e. 2-5 hours). As a general rule, a 30 credit course includes 300 learning hours, that can be roughly divided as follows: a third in classes or class-related work; a third in independent study; and a third in preparation of assignments.



Postgraduate Skills and Research Training

At the heart of all our programmes stands a commitment to helping students develop the skills they need to thrive at postgraduate level and beyond. MA students are encouraged to participate fully in the School's research community, enhancing their own skills through encounter with more experienced practitioners. Students' employability is nurtured through our innovative work placement scheme, which is available to all MA students in the School.

Career opportunities

How will the AGMS MA support my career goals?

This is an important entry-level qualification for anyone seeking to pursue a career in museums or galleries. It is also a valuable resource for continuing professional development for mid-career professionals. In addition, the MA provides a thorough training in the skills needed to do further postgraduate research. These skills in research design and planning are transferable to jobs in the museum sector, as well as being a vital first step to PhD or Professional Doctorate research.

What are the career destinations of AGMS graduates?

Of course, job destinations vary according to the interests, ambitions and skills of each individual, but most of our students are successful in obtaining professional posts in collections, exhibitions, education, interpretation, or some aspect of museum/arts management soon after completing the MA.

Find out more about the experiences of past students who have studied in Manchester online:

www.manchester.ac.uk/museology

Taught course

Full-time or part-time?

The AGMS MA is available as a one-year full-time or a two-year part-time course.

We particularly welcome part-time students and there are many advantages in combining study with work practice, whether you already have a museum post, or are just setting out on your career. Each year, a number of mid-career professionals take the MA degree on a part-time basis and find that the University provides a valuable space for reflection, as well as for further learning.

Part time students have classes one day per week (usually Monday or Tuesday; although in Semester 2 it might be a different day depending on the option course you choose). You should also count time for library work/fieldwork that may require you coming to Manchester and although sometimes this can be done on the day of teaching, often one needs to come in a second day. When the placement kicks off (about November/December in Year 1 or Year 2) you should also count one more day/week (on average) at the Work Placement institution (which, if appropriate or relevant, can be the organisation where you currently work; but undertaking a project different to your day-to-day work).

Entry Requirements and Funding

You will normally have a good Honours degree (minimum Upper Second class Honours) in an appropriate discipline. In addition, you must have some work experience (including voluntary work) in a museum, gallery, or similar institution.

If your first language is not English, you need a minimum average score of 7.0 on the IELTS test (including 7.0 in writing), or 600 on the TOEFL paper-based test (250 computer-based), or the Cambridge Advanced Certificate (grades A-C), or the Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (grades A-C).

Further information about entry requirements can be obtained from our admissions office:
tel +44 (0)161 306 1259

Competition for places on the AGMS degree is high, and we encourage you to apply as early as you can.

Students accepted for the Art Gallery and Museum Studies MA programme may compete for Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) scholarships and School fees bursaries and scholarships for overseas students. You can find out more about funding online:

www.manchester.ac.uk/museology



Teaching staff

Dr Kostas Arvanitis

Works in the field of digital heritage, which includes the theory and practice of digital media in museums, galleries and other cultural and heritage sites. Researches the use of in-gallery digital interactives and social and mobile media for purposes of curation, interpretation and learning. Also works in the areas of archaeological curatorship, museum archaeology, public archaeology and digital humanities.

Email: kostas.arvanitis@manchester.ac.uk

Dr Emma Martin

Works with ethnography collections especially from South Asia, the Himalaya and Tibet, focussing on colonial collecting and knowledge production. Also reflects on curatorial collecting practices both past and present and issues of contemporary collecting.

Email: emma.martin-2@manchester.ac.uk

Professor Helen Rees Leahy

Works primarily on historical and contemporary museums of fine and decorative art, and writes on issues of art collecting, display and interpretation, gallery space and the art market. She also works on practices of spectatorship and the politics of cultural access, past and present, as well as on the praxis of house museums.

Email: helen.rees@manchester.ac.uk

Centre for Museology staff are joined by a number of museum practitioners who provide specialist input into our courses. In addition, staff from the Centre for Arts Management and Cultural Policy teach on courses that are shared with our sister programme MA Arts Management, Policy and Practice.

Professional development programmes

MA course units

Course units from our Masters degree course in Art Gallery and Museum Studies can be taken as standalone short courses, or as part of a programme leading to a Postgraduate Certificate (at 15 or 30 credits). All course units involve a combination of seminars, discussion, lectures and presentations, practical exercises and fieldwork. Find out more about our professional development programmes at

www.manchester.ac.uk/museology

The Facts

- Proud history in the study of museology with forward-thinking postgraduate programmes
- Diverse, interdisciplinary subject area drawing on expertise from across the University
- Pioneering teaching informed by the latest research
- Strong working relationships with museums and galleries locally, throughout Britain and abroad
- Work Placement experience in a cultural organisation
- Dedicated skills training tailored to your career needs
- £650 million investment in university facilities for research and study
- 4 million books in one of the UK's best-resourced university libraries
- Nationally acclaimed University Careers Service with postgraduate support
- Exciting and diverse environment in one of the best student cities in the world



School of Arts, Languages and Cultures

The School of Arts, Languages and Cultures is the largest grouping of arts, languages and humanities scholars in the UK. It is home to some 6500 students, of which about 1000 are postgraduates, and around 350 academic staff working at the forefront of 20 disciplines:

- American Studies
- Archaeology
- Art History and Visual Studies
- Chinese Studies
- Classics and Ancient History
- Drama
- English Literature and Creative Writing
- French Studies
- German Studies
- History
- International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response
- Italian Studies
- Linguistics and English Language
- Japanese Studies
- Middle Eastern Studies
- Music
- Religions and Theology
- Russian and East European Studies
- Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies
- Translation and Intercultural Studies

The School is also home to the University Language Centre and a range of interdisciplinary research centres and institutes.

Academic expertise spans the fields of the creative arts, human cultures, beliefs, institutions and languages (from widely spoken global languages to those which are endangered). Our research embraces the material, visual, linguistic, textual, social and performative dimensions of human society past and present, in a rich interdisciplinary culture led by world-renowned scholars, from analysts to creative artists, formal linguists to cultural critics, historians to cultural theorists.

The research unit areas which make up the School have an outstanding international profile. The 2014 Research Excellence Framework judged that:

- 80% of the School's research was 'world leading' (4*) or 'internationally excellent' (3*)
- 72% of our research outputs (books/articles) were 4* or 3*
- 91% of the impact documented in our case studies was 4* or 3*
- 97% of our research environment was 4* or 3*

Six units of assessment from within the School had more than 70% of research outputs rated at 4*/3* while Modern Languages and Linguistics was ranked a highly impressive 3rd overall. In the 2015 Times Higher World University Rankings, measuring the quality of universities around the globe, Manchester placed 28th for Arts and Humanities. This commitment to research enriches the teaching environment, by bringing renowned international speakers and sustaining a culture of research seminars, workshops and conferences. It also ensures that our curriculum is continually refreshed.

Research and teaching in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures are supported by rich resources within the University. These include the John Rylands University Library, with its unique Special Collections housed in the refurbished Deansgate building; the University Language Centre, with its own language multi-media resource library; the Race Relations Archive; the Manchester Museum and the Whitworth Art Gallery. Other cultural assets at the University of Manchester include the Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama, Jodrell Bank Observatory and the Alan Gilbert Learning Commons. The School has a strong interdisciplinary orientation and houses the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in the Arts and Languages (CIDRAL).



We maintain a network of partners in research and skills training that involves a wide range of major cultural institutions across the North West. The University and the city offer superb facilities for almost any academic, culture and recreational interests you might wish to pursue. High profile festivals are a major part of Manchester's everyday life, and the School is involved in many of these, including the Manchester Literature Festival, Manchester Histories Festival and Manchester International Festival.

Graduate School and student experience

Our students find our Masters programmes both challenging and rewarding, as well as good foundations for further study and future employment. The student experience combines the advantages of belonging to a specific subject community alongside the extended choice that a large and diverse School encompasses.

Studying for a Masters within the School offers diverse opportunities for personal, career and professional development. In addition to the integration of work-related skills and experience within degree programmes, our dedicated, physical Graduate School offers a comprehensive range of skills training workshops, placements and residential schemes targeted at postgraduate

students. Our award-winning Careers Service will work in partnership with you throughout your degree to improve your employability and prepare for the competitive jobs market.

Furthermore, we have a strong commitment to social responsibility and public engagement. We want our graduates not only to be highly sought after by employers but also ready to play a constructive role as citizen scholars in wider society. Through our research we seek to create and develop knowledge that makes a difference in the world; through our teaching we want to inspire our students to achieve their full human potential.

Postgraduate skills and research training

The School of Arts, Languages and Cultures offer a number of bursaries set at the Home/EU fees level for Masters programmes, available for Home and Overseas students. In all cases, the awards are highly competitive.

Further information on all awards including application process and deadlines for application is available at www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/fees/postgraduate-taught-funding

The AHRC-funded North West Consortium Doctoral Training Partnership is now advertising 1+3 funding, which is available to outstanding applicants planning to undertake a PhD following the completion of their master's.

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Deadlines

The deadline for all School funding is Monday, 1 February 2016. Applicants who wish to be considered for this funding must have also submitted a standard programme application by this date. References and transcripts need only be submitted once, as they can be used for both a place on the course and as part of the funding application. University of Manchester undergraduates are reminded to accept a fast-track offer by 15 January, 2016.

Candidates wishing to apply for AHRC 1+3 funding must complete the University of Manchester postgraduate admissions application by Friday, 22 January 2016.

Candidates must also submit a NWCDTP Funding Application by 12 February 2016 (5pm GMT) in order to be considered.

Further information is available at www.nwcdtp.ac.uk/howtoapply





Find out more about The University of Manchester

Our website holds a wealth of information on the many varied aspects of postgraduate student life. Below are some of the most popular topics; use the links for full details.

Accommodation – Discover your potential new home:
www.manchester.ac.uk/accommodation

Admissions and applications – Everything you need to apply to Manchester:
www.manchester.ac.uk/pgapplication

Alan Gilbert Learning Commons – Our ultra-modern student learning environment:
www.manchester.ac.uk/library/learningcommons

Careers – Many major recruiters target our postgraduates; find out why:
www.manchester.ac.uk/careers

Childcare – Support for students who are also parents:
www.manchester.ac.uk/childcare

Disability support – For any additional support needs you may have:
www.manchester.ac.uk/dso

Funding and finance – Fees, scholarships, bursaries and more:
www.manchester.ac.uk/study/masters/fees
www.manchester.ac.uk/study/masters/funding
www.manchester.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-research/fees
www.manchester.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-research/funding

International students – Discover what we offer our multinational community:
www.manchester.ac.uk/international

IT services – Online learning, computer access, IT support and more:
www.manchester.ac.uk/itservices

Library – One of the UK's largest and best-resourced university libraries:
www.manchester.ac.uk/library

Manchester – Britain's 'original modern' city is right on your doorstep:
www.manchester.ac.uk/manchester

Maps – Visualise our campus, city and University accommodation:
www.manchester.ac.uk/maps



Prospectus – Access online or order a copy of our 2015 postgraduate prospectus:
www.manchester.ac.uk/study/masters/prospectus

Sport – Clubs, leagues, classes, facilities and more:
www.manchester.ac.uk/sport

Support – Dedicated academic, personal, financial and admin assistance:
<http://my.manchester.ac.uk/guest>

Students' Union – Societies, events, peer support, campaigns and more:
www.manchesterstudentsunion.com

Videos – See and hear more about our University:
www.youtube.com/user/universitymanchester

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School contact details

For further information about our courses
and how to apply, please contact:




Postgraduate Admissions
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www.manchester.ac.uk/alc

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Disclaimer

This brochure is prepared well in advance of the academic year to which it relates. Details of programmes may consequently vary with staff changes. We therefore reserve the right to make such alterations to courses as are necessary. If we make you an offer of a place, it is essential that you are aware of the current terms on which your offer is based. If you are in any doubt, please feel free to ask us for confirmation of the precise position for the year in question, before you accept our offer.

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