MA

Sustainable Heritage Management

Study mode	**Duration**	
Full-time	12 months	Apply by: **29 August 2025**
Part-time	24 months	Starts on: **22 September 2025**

About this course

Prepare for a career in heritage and conservation management on a programme fully recognised by the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC). This is the UK's leading body for building conservation practitioners and historic environment experts.

Introduction

This MA challenges you to think about the meanings of heritage. You'll explore sustainable heritage management in a range of contexts; architectural, urban, social, political, scientific and economic.

We'll introduce you to the key concepts, principles and practices of sustainable heritage management and examine their application to sustainability, conservation, tourism and regeneration.

You'll work in partnership with regional, national and international heritage organisations on real-world projects. Gaining practical experience with heritage professionals, you'll establish valuable industry contacts.

An optional work placement provides the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in a library, museum, historic property, or other cultural setting. Our heritage partners include organisations such as National Museums Liverpool, Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, Slate Museum Wales, Victoria Gallery & Museum and Port Sunlight Village Trust.

Learning from leading heritage academics and practitioners, you can further enrich your studies by getting involved in the activities of relevant research groups. These include the Heritage Theme, the ArCHIAM Centre and the Architectural and Urban History Group.

Who is this course for?

This master's is suitable for graduates from a range of Arts and Design disciplines, including Architecture, Archaeology, Landscape Architecture, Urban Design, Civil/Structural Engineering, Project Management, Quantity Surveying, and History, who have a passion for heritage and conservation management.

What you'll learn

- The concepts, principles and practices of heritage and conservation management
- How heritage management can drive sustainable development and regeneration
- Research, analytical and interpretative skills
- Conventional and innovative ways of showcasing and experiencing heritage assets
- The impact of technology on the use, management and preservation of records and archives
- Record-keeping structures, traditions and practices around the world
- Key concepts and theories in architecture.

Accreditation

This course is fully recognised by the [Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC)](#) – the UK's leading body for building conservation practitioners and historic environment experts – and covers its areas of competence. The programme also follows the education guidelines of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), UNESCO and Council of Europe requirements.

As a graduate of a course fully recognised by the IHBC, you'll be eligible to apply for full IHBC membership after two years of professional experience instead of the usual

minimum of five.

Accreditation in detail

IHBC

The [Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC)](#) is the UK's leading body for building conservation practitioners and historic environment experts.

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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Semester one

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
HERITAGE PERSPECTIVES AND POLICIES (ARCH735)	15
HERITAGE MANAGEMENT: APPROACHES AND METHODS (ARCH736)	15

Optional modules	Credits
ARCHITECTURAL AND URBAN FORMS OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD (ARCH737)	15
ARCHITECTURAL THEORIES FROM 1900 TO THE PRESENT (ARCH712)	15
VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENTS FOR ARCHITECTURE (ARCH708)	15
URBAN DESIGN (ARCH731)	15
AESTHETICS (PHIL716)	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Semester two

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
HERITAGE MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ARCH738)	15
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY (ARCH707)	15

Optional modules	Credits
HERITAGE DOCUMENTATION, DIGITISATION AND PRESENTATION (ARCH739)	15
PROFESSIONAL PLACEMENT (ARCH740)	15
DIGITAL RECORDS: THEIR NATURE, USE AND PRESERVATION IN THE INFORMATION SOCIETY (HIST566)	15
INTERNATIONAL RECORD KEEPING (HIST561)	15
PHILOSOPHY OF FILM (PHIL757)	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Final project

You must choose one of ARCH721 or ARCH722. You will only study one of these modules, not both.

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
THESIS: DISSERTATION (ARCH721)	60
THESIS: RESEARCH BY DESIGN (ARCH722)	60

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

The majority of the modules will be taught within the Liverpool School of Architecture (LSA), with four elective modules taught within the departments of History and Philosophy. The programme is designed to allow equal opportunities for students both with and without prior specialist architectural training, as it is open to students from different background with interest in heritage.

In addition to the mandatory modules, all students can select from a range of optional modules that provide deeper knowledge of a specific topic or area in heritage studies. The modules are taught in a variety of ways – traditional lectures centred on fundamental principles and heritage applications, group discussions in workshops, flipped classroom, guided independent study, tutorials, hands-on workshops, discussions with heritage specialists and practitioners, learning from case studies and field trips.

Additionally, the placement opportunities with different heritage institution will help the studnets to develop their work skills.

How you're assessed

The assessment strategies for the modules incorporated in this MA programme reflect the variety of teaching approaches used, and include poster submissions, analytical reports, essays, sustainable heritage management plan, heritage design project, oral and practical presentations, and a research dissertation or a design project led by research.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency

- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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Careers and employability

Providing the students with a clear career path, this programme will offer multidisciplinary and inter-disciplinary research and practice options and open opportunities for placement at a variety of institutes and locations, nationally and internationally. This programme will provide graduates with a critical understanding of both the theoretical and operational aspects of heritage, and an informed use of lessons from the past to enhance the present. The interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary nature of sustainable heritage management studies leads to creativity and enterprise.

Graduates will have an acute awareness of the moral and ethical issues that are inherent in heritage, which contributes to skilful negotiation of contested matters. These abilities are valued by employers, both academics and heritage agencies. The breadth of this programme widens the spectrum of employment opportunities. This programme is designed to meet the training requirements to equip the students with the skills and knowledge for further study towards an MPhil/PhD. Additionally, the full recognition by the IHBC and placement opportunities enhance the student's ability and their profile to work in a wide range of professional roles. Recent graduates of similar programmes have gone on to work in the heritage policy field and/or project related-areas for national and international organisations, such as IHBC, RICS, English Heritage, the National Trust, ICOMOS and UNESCO

Potential career pathways include, but are not limited to, the roles of:

- Conservation officer.
- Conservation architect.
- Heritage consultant.
- Building surveyor.
- Heritage crafts.

You could apply to work for UK government agencies, such as English Heritage and Historic Scotland.

International opportunities also abound, working for heritage organisations in their respective countries, or international heritage charities such as:

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).
- International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS).
- The Council of Europe.

- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM).

The programme also equips you with the skills and knowledge needed to continue your studies and work towards an MPhil or PhD.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year - £11,700
Part-time place, per year - £5,850

International fees

Full-time place, per year - £26,600
Part-time place, per year - £13,300

Fees stated are for the 2025-26 academic year.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can pay your tuition fees in instalments.
- All or part of your tuition fees can be funded by external sponsorship.
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to pay a tuition fee deposit.

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. **Learn more about paying for your studies.**.

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the additional study costs that may apply to this course.

Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Postgraduate entry requirements

We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree should be in Architecture (or a closely related subject e.g. Archaeology, Arts, Landscape Architecture, Urban Design, Civil/Structural Engineering, Project Management, Anthropology, Geography, Sociology, Languages and Literature, Tourism and Hospitality, Quantity Surveying, Art History or History). A minimum of two years' work experience is desirable but not necessary.

Applicants with degrees of a lower classification but who have considerable senior-level professional experience may also be accepted. For those applicants without a first degree or full professional membership, but with relevant and substantial work experience in the field, a special qualifying examination/interview may be set.

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the University of Liverpool International College, means you're guaranteed a place on your chosen course.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a majority English speaking country.

We accept a variety of international language tests and country-specific qualifications.

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0

TOEFL iBT

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with writing not less than 125, speaking and reading not less than 115, and listening not below 110

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 65

PSI Skills for English

B2 Pass with Merit in all bands

INDIA Standard XII

National Curriculum (CBSE/ISC) - 75% and above in English. Accepted State Boards - 80% and above in English.

WAEC

C6 or above

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or the equivalent score in selected other English language tests, to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with no component below 6.0	6 weeks	On campus
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	10 weeks	On campus and online options available
6.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	12 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.0, and no component below 4.5	30 weeks	On campus

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
4.5 overall, with no more than one component below 4.5, and no component below 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to Pre-sessional English entry requirements for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0, for further details.

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