

OBJECT AND MATERIALS CONSERVATION CONSERVATION OF TRANSPORT AND INDUSTRIAL COLLECTIONS

OM1701 20-23 FEBRUARY 2017 (3 day course)

There are relatively few opportunities for conservation professionals to find specialist training to enhance their knowledge of materials and techniques. West Dean College has developed a series of short courses aimed at meeting this training need.

All too often the original surface and materials that make up transport and technology objects are being lost due to over-restoration and inappropriate replacement. There is disparity in the aims of treatment and the level of conservation/restoration of objects, so there is no common approach available as a basis for management, treatment methods, documentation or the consideration of ethics. There is often a lack of any provision for conservation training. It is difficult for a conservator to learn the required engineering skills in a short time, so the transport and technology museum staff might be engineers first and become conservators-restorers second. There are few opportunities to develop a more ethical conservation approach.

This course delivers the fundamental information needed to understand the role and approach of the conservator involved in the care of a transport or industrial collection and to extend their knowledge of conservation principles. The programme consists of demonstrations, lectures and handling sessions, concentrating on conserving the many different materials encountered in transport and industrial collections. It also looks at preventive conservation, handling, storage and display and environmental monitoring and control.

Topics will include

Recognising the properties of different categories of fabrics, leather, woods, paint and varnish finishes, metals, etc

Recognising the main causes and effects of degradation of the material

Identifying the major environmental parameters for safe handling, storage and display

Understanding the different roles of objects within private and public collections and the influences of these roles on treatment

Understanding basic passive techniques and housekeeping methods

Identifying and discussing the pros and cons of in-situ treatments and treatments involving temporary removal of one or more element of the object.

The course will encourage active participation from those attending to foster the spirit of mutual exchange of ideas and experiences.

Course Leader

Chris Knapp, Conservation Manager, Imperial War Museum, Duxford, Cambridge

Tutors

Dave Morris, Curator of Aircraft, Fleet Air Arm Museum, Somerset

David Dorning, Head of Books and Library Materials Diploma Course, West Dean College

Jon Privett, Head of Metalwork Conservation Diploma Course, West Dean College

Participants

The course was designed originally for staff working in museums but it is now open to other groups or individuals.

OUTLINE PROGRAMME

Day 1	Monday
16.00-18.00	Register at Reception Desk
18.45	Welcome Talk
19.00	Dinner
Evening	What is a museum?

Day 2	Tuesday
Morning	Conservation principles and aims Conservation ethics
Afternoon	RE Documentation and work recording
Evening	Student Project
Day 3	Wednesday
Morning	Storage and display requirements The conservation of the Fleet Air Arm Museum's Corsair
Afternoon	Metals conservation Object risk assessment
Evening	Student presentations
Day 4	Thursday
Morning	Environmental control Checking
Afternoon	Wind up and certificates

Non-residential course fee: £436

Fully inclusive residential course fee:

Shared bathroom facilities £607

Standard room with private bathroom facilities £667

Superior room with private bathroom facilities £727

HOW TO BOOK

Please complete one booking form, or copy of form, per person per course and enclose a deposit for each course booked. On receipt of your booking, we will send all the further details you will need for your visit, including the course details and your final payment slip. Travel instructions will be sent to all students.

For further information about the course, please contact the Course Organiser: cpd@westdean.org.uk or +44 (0) 1243 818219.

For further information about booking, please telephone the Bookings Office: +44 (0)1243 818300.

Website: www.westdean.org.uk/College