

## Conservation of Clocks

### Graduate Diploma Programme

Programme Summary	
Awarding body	University of Sussex
Teaching institution	West Dean College
Programme title	Conservation of Clocks and Related Objects
Final award / FHEQ level	Graduate Diploma / level 6
Mode of study	Full-time, 36 weeks
Programme Leader	Matthew Read
External reference points/benchmarks	<p>The UK Quality Code for Higher Education Chapter A1 Qualification Descriptor for Level6 Subject Benchmarks Statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Archaeology</li> <li>• Art and design</li> <li>• History of art, architecture and design</li> </ul> <p>Institute of Conservation PACR Standards</p>
Criteria for admission to the programme	<p>Degree or qualification at equivalent level to a second year of undergraduate study, e.g. HND, DipHE, and an active interest in horology.</p> <p>English language: CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) Level B2 or IELTS 6.5.</p>

## Programme Aims

The aims of the programme are to provide:

### Practical

1. A context for the analysis, assessment and treatment of historic objects
2. The opportunity to develop high level applied craft and conservation skills
3. A research environment for the development of approaches to the conservation of horological objects

### Theoretical

1. An introduction to the historic and technical development of clocks in relation to cultural and scientific contexts
2. An introduction to the methods of research and analysis used within the discipline
3. A context for individual inquiry and group debate across the conservation specialisms

### Professional

1. A context for the development of a range of verbal, written and visual skills appropriate for the communication and documentation of conservation projects
2. An introduction to the personal and professional standards of conservation practice and the ethical treatment of objects congruent with national and international policy and practice.
3. Opportunities to plan and implement projects for a range of clients/contexts

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the programme students have:

### Practical

- The ability to handle, assess and make proposals for the treatment of a range of historic horological objects
- Knowledge of and ability to apply a range of materials, techniques and skills related to historic trade practices to new and existing horological objects
- Knowledge of current research and technical developments that inform contemporary approaches to the conservation of clocks.

### Theoretical

- The ability to identify and understand horological objects within historic, cultural and technical contexts
- The ability to test and inform practice through theory and vice versa
- Demonstrated an understanding of mechanics, physics and chemistry as applied to the analysis and interpretation of horological objects

## Professional

- The ability to generate supporting documentation relating to their work consistent with professional practice
- Developed an understanding of ethics, standards and self-development in relation to the professional practice of conservation
- Begun to develop a professional and independent decision making framework relating to the conservation of historic objects

## Alignment to External Reference Points

The programme is aligned with QAA and FHEQ frameworks and models of good practice. The programme design and student work is overseen by Programme Advisers and the External Examiner. Students are exposed to a range of professionals, institutions and models of good practice within the arena of conservation.

## Programme Structure

### Graduate Diploma – Programme Diagram

Semester 1 (18 weeks)				Semester 2 (18 weeks)			
Study Block 1	Formative Review/ Christmas Vacation	Study Block 2	Stage Assessment	Study Block 3	Formative Review/ Easter Vacation	Study Block 4	Final Assessment
Unit CL G1A – Induction - 30 credits		Unit CL G2A – Development 1 – 15 credits		Unit CL G3A – Development 2 – 15 credits		Unit CL G4A – Consolidation and Reflection – 30 credits	
Unit G1B – Science Induction – 10 credits				Unit G3B – Science Development – 10 credits			

Unit G1C – Contextual and Professional Studies 1 – 5 credits				Unit G3C – Contextual and Professional Studies 2 – 5 credits			

### Distinctive Programme Features

- Students learn through working on historic objects.
- Students are exposed to a range of horological and allied experiences through lectures, live projects, visiting practitioners and field visits
- Immersive environment encourages joint learning and interdisciplinary practice
- Students are given opportunities to build professional contacts and networks
- Workshops are open seven days a week, 07.00 to 22.00, giving extended opportunities for practical work
- The programme has a low student to staff ratio
- Staff have a broad range of professional horological experience from commercial to museum and heritage contexts

### Learning and Teaching – methods and strategy

West Dean is committed to providing a distinctive, high quality teaching and learning environment for practice-led study and research. The College is also committed to continuous improvement of teaching and learning to nurture a deep engagement with practice and its integration with historical, theoretical, cultural and contextual frameworks. The College seeks to ensure that teaching and learning activities and associated resources provide every student with an equal and effective opportunity to achieve intended learning outcomes. Our overriding intention is that, on successful completion of their programme of study, West Dean students become practically accomplished, theoretically aware and professionally autonomous practitioners.

Our continuing priorities are to:

- Provide students with opportunities to learn and develop their skills through working on a range of very high quality, often museum-class objects.
- Further develop practice-led study and research within a stimulating and creative cultural environment.

- Promote the integration of theory and practice where each is tested and informed by the other.
- Increase opportunities for students to engage in professional practice through engagement with live projects involving liaison with clients.
- Enhance and further develop a range of specialist learning resources.
- Support staff development by encouraging opportunities to engage in high-profile consultancy and research projects.

At Graduate Diploma level, students are supported by intensive tuition; careful supervision of practical work; focussed lectures; technical demonstrations; and outside visits.

In Clocks there is an emphasis on the mastery and creative judgement of hand skills. The programme has been devised to provide time an opportunity for students to develop these through a routine of assimilation and repetition.

Subject specific resources include a dedicated workshop with individual benches for each student. The workshop is equipped with a professional standard range of hand and power tools including lathes and drills and facilities for chemical treatments and cleaning. Students have access to the full range of metalworking and woodworking facilities in the adjacent departments. There are facilities for digital photography for the production of photographic records and documentation.

## Practical Experience & Work Placement

Students:

- Initially, undertake a range of bespoke practical exercises to further develop bench craft and machine tool skills
- Continue to build a portfolio of work in the form of a range of treatment to historic clocks
- Have the opportunity to contribute to research and consultancy projects. Current projects include the Pyke Clock from Temple Newsome and the Pagoda Clock from Angelsey Abbey.

## Assessment – methods and strategy

Work is assessed on a continuous basis independently by at least two members of staff (normally the programme leader and a programme tutor). This assessment is fed to students informally on an on-going basis through discussion and formally at assessment and review points (mid-term and final assessments).

Assessors use a pro-forma prompt sheet to ensure a consistent range of elements of work required is assessed,

Students sit a written examination at the end of each semester to determine their theoretical and historical knowledge.

Essay work is assessed independently and graded according to the assessment definitions.

All assessment is formalised in grades as set out in the assessment definitions.

Assessment is reviewed and moderated by the external examiner.