

PROFESSIONAL STUDY CERTIFICATES

Professional Study Certificates are designed for students who have a solid background in the areas of Restoration and Conservation, Fashion Design, Interior Design and Jewelry Design. They provide specific skills in each of these areas by combining theoretical with practical work.

During the course of one year, students will thus have the opportunity to broaden their formative experience by participating in artistic projects, guided by instructors who are critically acclaimed professionals operating in the fields offered by the Program. The Restoration and Conservation program offers practical field work in conjunction with the Restoration Department of the University of Florence, thus allowing students to actively participate in the restoration of authentic artwork.

Students applying for the Professional Study Certificate Program must provide evidence (i.e. university transcripts, certificates of completion from art academies or schools) of their background in the selected area. An admissions committee will review the application and accept only those students who meet the entry requirements.

PROFESSIONAL STUDY CERTIFICATE: RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION

An admissions committee formed by the Restoration Department's faculty will admit students into the program by an entrance assessment review in the following subjects (based upon international criteria for accredited restoration programs): drawing, foreign language exam (English or Italian), history of art, chemistry and manual and visual dexterity (color matching). It will also include an interview with the admissions committee and presentation of a portfolio (drawings, reproductions of old masters, photographic documentation of any previous experience in conservation, etc.) *Admission into the program will be announced immediately after completion of the entrance exams.*

Philosophy of the Program: Beginning in the Fall, students will choose their area of specialization in the sectors of fresco, painting/ polychrome sculpture, furniture, and ceramic. Historical techniques and conservation theories will be reviewed, and conservation techniques primarily used and developed in Italy will be presented. Students will work on-site and in the lab to focus on important projects commissioned to the LDM through the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and other public and private institutions.

Each student must undertake and finish a restoration project in order to complete the program. Some projects completed in the past have included Beato Angelico frescoes at San Domenico in Fiesole, a Raphael canvas, Michelangelo's marble sculptures at the Medici Chapels in Florence, and examples of Maggiolini's furniture. On-site work areas for the 2005-2006 program involve the restoration of the of Allori Chapel in Calenzano, the Poggetti Chapel in the Mugello and other important projects. Students will deal with complex treatments of specific projects commissioned to the LDM lab, and will document their work according to their scientific and historical studies. Collaboration with the Opificio delle Pietre Dure, museums, and other institutes in Florence affiliated with LDM will be part of the Professional Study experience.

"Guest Lecture Series" will be held throughout the Professional Study period, with some of the following topics: computer documentation/digital photography/analytical photography; relining techniques; varnishing techniques; and advances in wall painting conservation. Lectures from Italy's renown conservators, conservation scientists, photographers and professionals in the field.

FALL SEMESTER

- Italian Language ----- 45 hours
- SA RT SC 390 Advanced Science for Conservators ----- 45 hours
- SA RT HT 350 Advanced Historical Techniques Lab ----- 45 hours
- SA RT TC 380 Advanced Theory Project for Conservators ----- 15 hours
(in conjunction with one lab of choice)

Single choice, according to sectors of specialization

- SA RT FR 370 Advanced Fresco/Mural Painting and Décor Restoration ----- 90 hours
- SA RT PC 380 Advanced Painting and Polychrome Wooden Sculpture Conservation -- 90 hours
- SA RT FW 390 Advanced Furniture/Wood Objects Conservation ----- 90 hours

- SA RT CR 360 Advanced Ceramic Restoration ----- 90 hours

SPRING SEMESTER/SUMMER SESSION

- Italian Language ----- 45 hours
- SA RT TC 380 Advanced Theory Project for Conservators ----- 15 hours
(in conjunction with one lab of choice)

WORKING LAB, with more attention to individual sectors of specialization ----- min. 300 hours