



Audiovisual and Photographic Cultural Heritage - Modern Media

The city of Berlin is one of the most important cultural centres in Germany, so it seems fitting that also a Conservation and Field Archaeology programme is located in Berlin. Conservation/Restoration - Field Archaeology is a uniquely interdisciplinary study programme, with its courses in both *Field Archaeology* and in *Audiovisual and Photographic Cultural Heritage - Modern Media* even one-of-a-kind within Germany.

Courses take place in a repurposed, historically significant factory building that forms part of HTW Berlin's Wilhelminenhofcampus. It is located in Berlin - Oberschöneweide, right at the banks of the river Spree. Within this building, an entire floor is available to our students, providing excellent laboratories and studios where students enjoy hands-on laboratory classes and have their manual through practical work. Since the study programme is rather small (40 students per year with about 10 students per main subject), the classes have a focused, but casual atmosphere. Upon their successful graduation, students are then thoroughly qualified to find employment in museums and archives or to engage in treatment in the private sector.

Basic information

Requirements for the study programme are either:

- an advanced technical college entrance qualification;
- higher education entrance qualification
- or specific higher education entrance qualification

Prior to application for the programme, a 12-month internship needs to be completed, either in conservation facility or at an excavation. Special exceptions can be discussed with the professors of the main subject you wish to attend.

Your application then needs to include both documentation about this internship, as well as a confirmation of attendance.

In the documentation you should describe the place and type of your work, the duration of your internship, professional supervision and materials used, tools and equipment. Support in finding a suitable organisation for your internship is provided by the professors and laboratory engineers, do feel free to contact them.

Applicants will be interviewed before they are admitted to the courses. Necessary documents for the interview include an application dossier and a handwritten resume (2-3 pages).

Application dossier

- a documentation of a photography, written and graphic (pencil)
- a description of a historic exhibition, in writing and sketches, including descriptions of structure and installation, exhibition plan, perspective sketches and drawings of the exhibition elements such as display cabinets etc.
- an audiovisual or photographic creative work in a process or medium of your choice



About the main subject

Photographies, and film and video in particular, have not been recognised as cultural heritage for a long time. They reflect contemporary attitudes and cultural history, yet age and decay unless preserved in time. Whether polaroid or glass plate negative, an early 35mm theatrical nitrate print or a small gauge amateur film, U-matic or 1/4-inch video: these cultural artifacts consist of different materials and carry invaluable historic, cultural and aesthetic value and audiovisual information. The methods used for conservation are as fascinating as they are diverse. The students concentrate on the investigation of practical conservation and restoration of audiovisual and photographic cultural heritage as well as of other modern media. This area of conservation is comparatively young and unique, thus students benefit from working

with students and teachers of the other specialisations in order to develop methods for the preservation of these materials through practical experimentation and research.

Graduates with a bachelor's degree often work in conservation workshops of museums, filmarchives and cinemateques or with collections of photographs. They can also work as freelancer for galleries and private collections or as consult for film archives.

Graduates with a master's degree often focus on a specific problem within restoration and preservation of audiovisual artefacts and may continue towards a conferral of a doctorate.

Contact information

- **Prof. Dr. Ulrich Rüdell**
ulrich.ruedel@htw-berlin.de
- **Anna Veronika Jüster**
anna-veronika.juester@htw-berlin.de