



Modern Materials / Technical Heritage

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 - Oberschöneeweide, 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

- three free artistic works (different media such as oil paint, tempera, water colour, charcoal drawings etc.)
- 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.
- one freely chosen 3D curvo-linear ornament sawed out of sheet brass (1-2mm thick, max. 20 x 20cm)



About the main subject

Technology, a rather new phenomenon compared to for instance what is explored by archaeology, but not less worthy and, indeed, in need of the efforts of preservation. It has become one of the most important parts of our everyday-life. It is not only part of industry and household, but also of modern art with its diverse materials. Artifacts that are treated in this main subject include machines, cars, cinematographic objects and much more. These are threatened by chemical decay such as embrittlement of synthetic material and rubbers and corrosion of metallic parts.

The students of this main subject have the challenge of developing new preservation methods and acquiring diversified knowledge

while engaging in continuous research.

Graduates with a bachelor's degree may work in museums, galleries, laboratories, conservation workshops or as a freelancer for private collections, within industrial large-scale plants or scientific research projects.

The master's degree is an important extension that further broadens the possibilities in the later work life and enables the graduate to acquire a conferral of a doctorate.

Contact information

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