UCLouvain

larct1001

2026

Heritage

3.00 credits	30.0 h	Q1

This biannual learning unit is not being organized in 2026-2027 !

Language :	French
Place of the course	Tournai
Main themes	The aim of this course is to provide an in-depth exploration of restoration theories and their practical applications. It is designed for students seeking to deepen their understanding of this discipline and develop a strong ethical foundation for engaging with projects in the built environment. Course Topics: • Heritage Philosophy Definitions, concepts, and key issues, The emergence and evolution of the notion of heritage (and heritages), conservation, restoration, and reallocation, From principles to normative frameworks: critical analysis of charters and other reference documents, Critical examination of concepts such as authenticity, reversibility, and integrated conservation, Overview of institutions responsible for heritage protection and enhancement. • Methodology of Preliminary Analyses; focus on building archaeology as a multidisciplinary approach that synthesizes insights essential for developing meaningful projects, • Heritage and Architectural Creation; application of contemporary ethical frameworks and analysis of evolving practices in heritage and architectural design.
Learning outcomes	**At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :** **Specific Learning Outcomes** By the end of this course, students will be able to: • Understand and critically assess the foundational references and principles of heritage philosophy, • Recognize and analyze architectural heritage in its full complexity and potential, • Contextualize contemporary ethical frameworks by examining the historical processes that shaped them, • Evaluate and identify appropriate restoration options, linking these choices to the intervention philosophy and articulating a well-founded argument for the proposed approach, • Familiarize with key methods for investigating built heritage and appreciate the necessity of specific preliminary analyses, • Understand the vital role of interdisciplinarity in the analysis, design, and execution of intervention proposals, • Research, analyze, and critically interpret references for architectural integration in existing environments, and develop a defensible position based on this analysis, • Generate ideas and proposals for the preservation, restoration, and adaptive reuse of historic buildings. **General Learning Outcomes** In line with the program's learning outcomes (LOs), this course contributes to the development and acquisition of the following LOs: • LO4.1 Learn and explain the concepts and methods of scientific disciplines. • LO4.4 Learn and explain the environmental, social, and economic consequences of architectural choices. • LO6.1 Acquire knowledge of disciplinary methods in scientific research. • LO6.2 Adopt a critical attitude free from any preconceptions.

Evaluation methods	The assessment consists of a written research and analysis paper, to be completed individually or in pairs, and submitted via Moodle at the beginning of the examination period. As a general rule, the same grade is awarded to all members of the group, unless the examiners observe a disproportion in contributions (e.g., repeated absences, insufficient participation in group work). In such cases, the examiners reserve the right to assign an individual grade to the student concerned. This assignment constitutes 100% of the final grade and is evaluated collectively. The same assessment procedure applies during the resit session. Should generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools be employed, their use must remain responsible and fully compliant with the principles of academic and scientific integrity. Accordingly, any use of generative AI inconsistent with the permitted practices outlined in the course description shall be deemed an irregularity under Article 107 of the RGEE (i.e., non-personal work produced by the student in the context of an assessment).
Teaching methods	Theoretical lectures, Presentations by guest speakers, Visits (site visits) to emblematic heritage buildings, Supervisory session on the progress of the written assignment
Content	**Theoretical courses, site visits, and practical exercises structured around the following themes:** **Heritage Ethics:** • *"Heritage Ecosystem"*: tangible, intangible, and natural heritage; the roles of national and supranational institutions; heritage values and modes of protection; general methodology of projects "on" and "with" the existing built environment. • The *"notion of heritage"* from Antiquity to the present day; the evolving consideration given over the centuries by our predecessors to built and non-built objects. The emergence of the concept of Historic Monuments and of restoration as a discipline in its own right. Emphasis will be placed on key authors and their contexts, such as Alberti, Poggio Bracciolini, Spon, Montfaucon, Nodier & Taylor, Mérimée, Viollet-le-Duc, Ruskin, Boito, and Brandi, later followed by the ICOMOS charters. • Key insights into the emergence of the concept of urban heritage will be provided in relation to the transformation of cities since the Industrial Revolution. • Heritage as a response to the challenges of sustainability and energy transition. **Thematic presentations by practitioners:** These presentations will connect the notions of heritage ethics and restoration project methodology through concrete case studies in which preliminary studies played a foundational role in project development. Expected speakers: • Laurent Deléhouzée (building archaeologist at AWaP): Tournai Cathedral and the Pont des Trous; • Romuald Casier (Heritage Architect): professional experiences in restoration practice. **Technical and architectonic integrations** • The relationship between existing buildings and contemporary projects, through case analysis, linking ethics with project practice *on* and *with* the existing built environment. • The integration of contemporary techniques into existing structures, in relation to the heritage values of the built environment and the opportunities and limitations they reveal.
Inline resources	The materials for the theoretical courses will be made available on MOODLE progressively as the lectures are delivered.
Bibliography	BABELON, J.P., CHASTEL, A., La notion de Patrimoine, Paris, Liana Levi, 1994 BERCE, F., Viollet-le-Duc, MONUM, Editions du Patrimoine, Paris, 2014 BOITO, C. Conserver ou restaurer (1893), Besançon, Editions de l'imprimeur, 2000 BOLLE, C., COURA, G. & LEOTARD, J.-M. (dir), *L'archéologie des bâtiments en question. Un outil pour les connaître, les conserver et les restaurer*. Actes du colloque international Liège les 9 et 10 novembre 2010, Etudes et Documents, Archéologie 35, Ministère de la Région Wallonne, Namur, 2014. BRANDI, C., Théorie de la Restauration (1964), Paris, Monum, Editions du Patrimoine, 2001 CHOAY, Fr., L'allégorie du Patrimoine, Paris, Seuil, 1992 – 1999 CHOAY, Fr., Le patrimoine en questions – Paris, Seuil, 2009 CRAMER, J., BREITLING, S., Architecture in existing fabric, Basel, Birkhäuser, 2007 GIOVANNONI, G., L'urbanisme face aux villes anciennes (1931), Paris, Seuil, 1998 MONUMENTAL, revue scientifique et technique des monuments historiques, Conservation, restauration : La charte de Venise, Paris, Editions du patrimoine, semestriel 2 2021 MOUTON, B. Sens et renaissances du patrimoine architectural, Éditions des Cendres / Cité de l'architecture & du patrimoine, Paris, 2018 RIEGL, A. Le Culte moderne des monuments (1903), Paris, Seuil, 1984 RUSKIN, J., les sept lampes de l'architecture (1849), Clamecy, Klincksieck, 2008

Faculty or entity in charge	LOCI

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Bachelor in Architecture (Bruxelles)	ARCB1BA	3		
Bachelor in Architecture (Tournai)	ARCT1BA	3		