

MUSEUM TRAINING SCHOOL





Welcome to the British Council/UCL Museum Training School

Museums and galleries around the world are experiencing unprecedented growth and rapid change. These changes accelerate the need to train a new generation of museum leaders. In response to this need, the British Council and University College London (UCL) have joined together to launch the Museum Training School.

The mission of the School is to provide arts and heritage professionals from around the world with the skills and knowledge necessary to increase the sustainability and growth of museums and galleries.

The synergy of the British Council and UCL will provide a unique learning experience with an international approach and outlook. The Museum Training School is based in London, home to many of the world's top museums and art galleries, and has links to all of the major regional museums in the UK. Participants will hear from the people who run these institutions and have access to the British Council and UCL's world class collections that cover subjects ranging from ancient Egypt and natural history to contemporary British art. The courses will also provide opportunities for knowledge and best practices sharing.

The alumni of the Museum Training School will join an international network of museum and gallery leaders who endeavour to demonstrate the value and need for cultural engagement among all segments of society. We invite you to apply to be part of the inaugural year of this exciting programme.

Andrea Rose
Director of Visual Arts
and Strategic Programmes
British Council

Sally MacDonald
Director, Museums
and Public Engagement
UCL

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Course Programme

Courses are designed for an international audience and will provide participants with the skills and expertise needed by museum professionals today. They will be developed for mid-career museum professionals (with a minimum of 3 years experience) who have ambitions to be leaders.

The first course offers will be run as a Summer School in London in August 2014. Four courses, each lasting a week, will run sequentially, making it possible to participate in just one course or attend the complete four week Summer School.

The courses will suit those who enjoy an active learning environment as they will involve hands-on activities and practical projects for participants to complete individually and/or in groups. Learning will be challenging, enjoyable and engaging. UCL and the British Council have proven expertise in delivering teaching and training in the arts and heritage sector through a variety of techniques and methods utilising world class resources and collections. With object-based learning, off-site visits, vocational workshops and lectures, the School will cater to different learning needs and preferences.

Speakers will include highly experienced museum professionals from national and major regional museums across the UK, chosen for their insightfulness and relevant expertise.

The courses will be taught on the UCL campus, which is situated in the heart of the vibrant Bloomsbury area of London, with over 20 museums and cultural institutions within walking distance but regular 'behind the scenes' visits to museums and galleries in London will be made during the week.

By the end of the course, students will:

- **Have developed new ways of thinking and working in a museum or gallery setting**
- **Have increased their skills and expertise in their subject of study**
- **Have direct experience of relevant best practices in the UK museums and gallery sector**
- **Be part of a global network of arts and museum professionals**



2014 Summer School

How to build local, national and international partnerships

4–8 August 2014

This course will give students the skills necessary to develop and nurture relationships between and among museums and non-museum organisations in order to increase capacity and extend their reach. Subjects covered will include identifying and securing national and international touring exhibition partners; building new audiences by partnering with local public organisations such as schools, hospitals, theatre and music venues; and gaining new knowledge by working with universities and research organisations. The course will help students build the skills to identify potential partners, to understand the key principles of effective partnership working, to recognise and mitigate potential partnership conflicts, and to grow and expand partnerships.

How to develop exhibitions

11–15 August 2014

This course will provide students with the skills to lead the development of museum and gallery exhibitions and understand the practical aspects of exhibition organisation. Subjects covered will include concept and narrative development, selecting artworks and objects, display and interpretation, space preparation and installation. Students will also be introduced to project management principles that support the exhibition development process, including how to create exhibition evaluation frameworks.

How to develop schools and learning programmes

18–22 August 2014

This course will give students the skills to develop and run museum programmes for children and young people (ages 5–16). The course will focus on methods for using museum collections to teach in formal and informal educational settings. Subjects covered will include how to use museum objects into the classroom, how to design school lesson plans incorporating museum collections; and how to develop interpretation materials and activities for use within the museum that engage children and promote informal learning.


How to develop community engagement programmes

25–29 August 2014

Many people think of museums as tourist attractions, but museums can offer a wide variety of benefits to the communities that surround them. This course will give students the skills to help their museums increase engagement with families, social and civic groups and other institutions that serve local communities. The course will cover subjects such as target marketing; community 'needs analysis' research; fostering community dialogue through museum collections; developing events and activities in collaboration with community groups; and setting up community volunteering programmes. The course will also give participants the skills to advocate for more community work in museums and to assess the impact of community work.

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“The programme was very well organised. Every museum we visited was a new experience to discover. The experience of this programme changed my way of thinking’.

Participant, British Council/UCL
Cultural Heritage Fellowship Programme, 2012.

Entry requirements and how to apply

Eligibility

Each course will be limited to a maximum of 20 participants. Participants will be:

- Mid career museum professionals (a minimum of 3 years experience)
- Comfortable with public speaking
- Able to work in teams and diverse groups
- Open to new experiences
- Able to have an impact on their institution's strategy and/or programming

The courses will be conducted in English. All applicants will be expected to have an effective knowledge of English, both spoken and written (IELTS Level 5.5 or TOEFL with a score of at least 90).

Fees

The course fee is £900 per week. The fees cover course participation, off-site visits and learning materials and include lunches and refreshments throughout the week. Payment of the full fee will be due eight weeks prior to the beginning of the course.

Participants will be responsible for arranging and covering the costs of their travel and accommodation costs. A list of recommended hotels will be provided.

All participants who complete a course will receive a British Council/UCL certificate confirming their participation in the course.

Dates

4–8 August
Course 1: How to build local, national and international partnerships

11–15 August
Course 2: How to develop exhibitions

18–22 August
Course 3: How to develop schools and learning programmes

25–29 August
Course 4: How to develop community engagement programmes

Applications

The final deadline for applications is **Sunday 18 May 2014**, but applications will be assessed from **Friday 18 April**.

Participants are welcome to apply for one, two, three or four courses. All applicants will be required to complete an online application form. The application form, contact details and further information will be found on www.ucl.ac.uk/museums/our-work/international.

Deadline for applications is **Sunday 18 May 2014**.

Applicants will be notified by **Friday 30 May 2014**.

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‘...gave me great ideas for
developing our museums...’

Participant, Cultural Heritage Fellowship Programme 2012



About the British Council

The British Council (www.britishcouncil.org) is the UK's international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations. With offices in over 100 countries, the British Council plays a major role in building skills, connecting educational and arts institutions and supporting cultural and economic development. The British Council has worked with museums worldwide for over seventy five years.

Since the 1930s, the British Council has been collecting works of art to promote the achievements of UK artists. The collection now numbers more than 8500 artworks, covering numerous media and aspects of British art and design of the 20th and 21st centuries. This unique resource introduces the achievements of successive generations of British artists to audiences worldwide (www.collection.britishcouncil.org).

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Photo by John Riddy, © The Artist's Estate



About UCL

University College London (UCL) (www.ucl.ac.uk) is one of the world's leading universities and ranks fourth in the QS World University Rankings. It has a significant range of international partnerships, including satellite campuses in Qatar, Kazakhstan and Australia. UCL runs a highly prestigious postgraduate museum studies course, and, from its UCL-Q campus in Qatar, a cultural heritage capacity building programme.

Uniquely for a London university, UCL has a range of outstanding collections, including the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, Grant Museum of Zoology and UCL Art Museum. In addition, UCL is a world class centre of object based research and teaching, dedicated to developing and sharing knowledge (www.ucl.ac.uk/museums).

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