



संस्कृति मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
CULTURE



Post Graduate Diploma In Preventive Conservation (PGDPC)

In collaboration with
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Delhi
Conservation Division

&

Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune
Conservation Department

The one-year PG Diploma course offered by the Conservation Department of Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute in collaboration with Conservation Division of IGNCIA is a comprehensive program that provides a detailed insight into various aspects of preventive conservation within the heritage field, encompassing museums, galleries, libraries, archives, and art repositories. Preventive Conservation is the need of the hour as it addresses the urgent requirement to safeguard our cultural heritage from the ravages of time, environmental factors, and human intervention. By adopting preventive conservation measures, one can mitigate risks and minimize the deterioration of invaluable artifacts, manuscripts, artworks, and historical documents, ensuring their preservation for future generations. This course equips students with the knowledge, skills, and practical experience necessary to implement effective conservation strategies, emphasizing the ethical responsibility we hold to protect and maintain our cultural legacy. Through interdisciplinary approaches and hands-on training, candidates learn to assess, document, and manage heritage collections, contributing to the sustainability and longevity of our cultural heritage resources. In the first semester, which is structured with a blend of theory and practical components, students delve into foundational topics such as the definition and terminology of preventive conservation, the interdisciplinary nature of conservation, and the roles of different professionals within a museum. They also gain an understanding of museum objects, climate control, factors of deterioration, and the crucial role of documentation in conservation efforts. Approximately 75% of this semester is theory-based, while the remaining 25% is dedicated to practical exercises.

Moving into the second semester, the focus shifts towards practical application, with an emphasis on hands-on learning. Students engage in activities such as handling, transportation, and packaging of museum objects, as well as museum storage and display techniques. Field and museum assessment visits, along with visits to heritage sites, are integral parts of the coursework, allowing students to gain firsthand experience and apply their knowledge in real-world settings.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Risk & Disaster Management in Museums are also explored extensively, emphasizing the importance of proactive measures to safeguard cultural heritage.

The culmination of the program involves a final dissertation or field report, allowing students to apply their knowledge and skills to real-world scenarios. Notably, the course highlights the broader significance of preventive conservation beyond museum professionals, extending its value to heritage professionals and the wider community.



Overall, this PG Diploma course equips students with the expertise needed to preserve and protect cultural artifacts, emphasizing the role of preventive conservation in safeguarding our shared heritage for future generations.

FACULTY:

Our PG Diploma course is guided by a core faculty team within the Conservation Division, from IGNCA & BORI most of whom are trained in conservation and Preventive Conservation following norms and guidelines by international organizations such as ICCROM and UNESCO. Their expertise is further enriched by collaboration with a diverse group of resource persons from across the globe, who serve as visiting faculty members. Thanks to IGNCA's collaborations with numerous national and international institutions, we're able to draw upon the insights of top experts in the field as special visiting lecturers. This ensures that students benefit from a rich and varied educational experience, grounded in the latest global perspectives on preventive conservation.

TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE:

The number of lectures will be based and modelled on the understanding of the participants. As it is a practical-oriented course with a specific focus on understanding various aspects of cultural heritage and its conservation, the lectures will be blended with theoretical as well as practical approaches. This ensures that participants not only grasp the theoretical concepts but also gain hands-on experience, enhancing their overall understanding and competency in preventive conservation.

1. Introduction to Preventive Conservation (approx. 30 lectures)

- Definition and terminology
- Functions of a Museum
- Roles of different professionals in a Museum
- Collection ethics
- Interdisciplinary nature of conservation
- Review and discussion

2. Introduction to Museum Objects (20 lectures)

- Types of Objects (Organic, In-organic, Composite)
- Introduction to art objects
- Review and discussion

3. Museum Climate & Factors of Deterioration (25 lectures)

- Micro & Macro Climate
- Museum Climate (Light, Relative Humidity, Temperature, Pollution)
- Types of Deterioration (Chemical, Biological, Physical)
- Aggressors (Human Aggressors, Natural Aggressors)
- Vulnerability of Organic Objects Monitoring Museum Climate
- Review and discussion



4. Role of Documentation in Preventive Conservation (35 lectures)

- Documentation System
- Photography of Museum Objects
- Different Elements of Documentation System
- Importance of Re-Organization for Implementing Documentation System
- Importance of Documentation System for Implementing Preventive Conservation Plan
- Review and discussion

5. Handling, Transportation and Packaging of Museum Objects (20 lectures)

- Handling of Museum Objects
- Packaging
- Transportation
- Practical sessions (8 lectures)

6. Museum Storage & Display (20 lectures)

- Introduction to Museum Storage
- Status of Museum Storage
- Re-organization of Museum Storage
- Difference between Organisation & Re-organisation
- Difference between Deposit & Storage

7. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Risk & Disaster Management in Museums (30 lectures)

- Components of IPM
- Types of Museum Pests
- Integrated Approach to control of Pests
- Measures for Controlling Pests
- Risk Management Process
- Application of Risk Management in Cultural Field
- Types of Disaster
- Emergency Planning and Operation
- Practical Sessions (8 lectures)

8. Final Dissertation/Field Report (20 lectures)