

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London					
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College					
3	Programme Title(s)	Postgraduate Certificate Curating and Collections Management					
4	Programme Code(s)	TPCCURCM_C					
5	UCAS code	N/A					
6	Home Department	History of Art					
7	Exit Award(s)	N/A					
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	2					
9	Mode of Study	FT		PT	x	DL	
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7					
11	Other teaching depts or institution	N/A					
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A					
13	<u>QAA Benchmark Statement</u>	N/A					

14	Programme Rationale & Aims
	<p>While there are several other postgraduate curating programmes in the UK and London, there is nothing that offers accredited high-level skills-based training in collections management for current or prospective museum professionals. Curating and collections management dovetail well as areas, each enhancing and drawing on the other. In terms of attracting students, curating has more name-recognition and general appeal as an area, while pairing it with collections management is a unique selling point. The programme and modules draw on well-established links with the museum world, established through the History of Art department's extensive network of work placements.</p> <p>In addition to the home market among people seeking to access curating and collections jobs in the very large and vibrant museum sector, there are significant potential international markets. Particularly in Africa and the Middle East, there is need for capacity building in the museums area, and little local or in-house training provision. London, with its world-famous museums, is a very attractive draw for students from these parts of the world and elsewhere.</p> <p>The intensive nature of the teaching on the modules allows both home and international students to take short-term leave from work to attend, potentially sponsored by their employers. International students can enter the UK on a short-term study visa.</p> <p>This is a high-quality course for a small number of students. The modules would be capped at 15, in order to make the intensive programme of behind-the-scenes access to partner museums feasible.</p> <p>Aims To provide students with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A solid grasp of key issues in curating and in collections management

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundational skills in curating and collections management • Insight into the different working practices of various museums and galleries • An opportunity to research and test ideas for exhibitions • Skills in research, writing, and documentation that are specifically geared to a museums or galleries context • A basis for professional work
15	Entry Criteria
	Second class (2.2) degree in a relevant subject or equivalent (for example, professional experience).
16	Learning Outcomes
	<p>On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:</p> <p><i>Subject Specific:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental principles of collections management and the role and responsibilities of the curator within the modern museum and gallery context; • Understand the principles of museum collecting today, and their relevance to managing a collection; • Catalogue an object to museum standards; • Draw on theoretical concepts to understand the methodologies of collections management and care; • Select objects and create coherent narratives with them; • Understand the fundamental principles of object interpretation; • Engage constructively in current debates concerning curatorship and its changing nature; • Identify some of the challenges faced by the museum and gallery curator and collections manager today; <p><i>Intellectual:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate professionally (both orally and in writing); • Apply theoretical arguments to focussed areas of research; <p><i>Practical:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debate in an atmosphere of open discussion; • Understand the fundamental role and purpose of a collections database; <p><i>Personal and Social:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage time effectively; • Understand the importance of precision and attention to detail.
17	Learning, teaching and assessment methods
	<p>The programme consists of two intensively taught one-week modules. Students take one module each year.</p> <p>Each intensive module is delivered across a concentrated five-day period.</p>

	<p>Morning sessions are held in the classroom from 10am to 1pm, with the first ninety minutes consisting of a tutor-led seminar, followed by a further ninety minutes of practical, task-oriented group work / discussion. Students complete ten hours of directed learning prior to the commencement of the module.</p> <p>Tutor-led museum and gallery visits take place each afternoon.</p> <p>Assessment consists of a piece of project coursework for each module. For Collections Management, students document a museum bequest according to accredited museum standards. For Curating Practice, students devise their own exhibition project.</p>
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18	Programme Description
	<p>Students take two modules:</p> <p>Curating Practice (30 credits)</p> <p>Collections Management (30 credits)</p> <p>Each module will be taught in the daytime over one intensive week.</p> <p>The modules are taught in alternate years, and can be taken in any order.</p>

19	Programme Structure			
Part Time programme				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	ARVC272S7	Collections Management	30	Core
		OR		
7	ARVC273S7	Curating Practice	30	Core
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	ARVC272S7	Curating Practice	30	Core
		OR		
7	ARVC273S7	Collections Management	30	Core

***Status**

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

20	Regulations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admissions This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf Credit Transfer Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme Regulations This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations • Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable) N/A 	
21	Student Attendance Framework – in brief	
	<p>The full version of the 'Student Attendance Framework' is available http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/Attendance-Framework.pdf .</p> <p>Principle Consistent and regular student attendance in class (or equivalent) promotes and affords student success. Inconsistent and irregular attendance is less likely to result in student success and is consistent with lower marks and degree classifications being achieved and awarded.</p> <p>Attendance expectation Birkbeck, University of London expects you to consistently attend all timetabled sessions, including lectures, seminars, group and individual tutorials, learning support sessions, workshops, laboratories, field trips, inductions and demonstrations.</p> <p>E-Registers All Birkbeck students are issued with student cards. Students are expected to take them to classes and to assessment venues and to present them to a member of staff if requested. This is for the purpose of identifying Birkbeck students.</p>	
22	Student Support and Guidance	
	<p>All Birkbeck students have access to a range of student support services, details can be found on our website here: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/student-services</p>	
23	Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards	
	<p>The College has rigorous procedures in place for the monitoring and enhancing its educational provision. This includes regular monitoring of programmes drawing on feedback from various sources including external examiner's reports, student feedback, student achievement and progression data. In addition, departments are reviewed every four to five years through the internal review process that includes external input.</p> <p>For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality .</p>	
24	Programme Director	Dr Sarah Thomas
25	Start Date (term/year)	Autumn 2020
26	Date approved by Education Committee	Autumn 2019 (Chair's action)
27	Date approved by Academic Board	Spring 2020
28	Date(s) updated/amended	January 2020