An impressionist painting of a landscape. The scene is dominated by dark, textured brushstrokes in shades of blue, green, and brown. In the lower-left quadrant, a building with a light-colored roof is partially visible, surrounded by dense foliage. To the right, a body of water reflects the surrounding colors. The overall style is characteristic of the Impressionist movement, with a focus on light and color over fine detail.

**The Courtauld**

**Postgraduate  
Prospectus  
2025/26**

History of Art and Conservation



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# Director's welcome



**The Courtauld Institute of Art is one of the world's leading centres for the study of history of art, conservation and curating. I am delighted you are considering studying with us.**

Uniquely, The Courtauld brings together exceptional teaching and research in the history and conservation of art with an outstanding art collection. Across our faculty, we offer an unmatched range of specialisms from the medieval period to the present, covering art from across the world.

We pride ourselves on offering a truly transformative learning experience that is open to everyone, regardless of background. At the Courtauld, you will be intellectually stimulated by your teachers and peers, and become part of a lively, friendly and supportive community. Your whole experience will enrich your life and open up wonderful opportunities.

One of our greatest strengths is our ability to nurture each and every student. Our small classes create an inspiring atmosphere

where you can explore the subjects that most interest you. Our world-leading faculty will get to know you as an individual, and will work with you to enhance your talents and strengths. They will equip you with a combination of skills and knowledge that will serve you as both a personal and professional springboard. Here, you will gain friends, mentors and contacts for life.

Leaders in a broad range of fields, our passionate and committed teachers enrich the student experience by bringing current research and debates into classroom discussion. Our teaching places a strong emphasis on critical analysis, historical inquiry and original thinking. As a result, our students develop deeply transferable skills, including the ability to analyse, write, present an argument and speak confidently in public. These skills equip our graduates for careers in the art world and beyond, and enable them to look and think differently and creatively.

The Courtauld is at the heart of a community of specialists - including a global network of over 9,000 alumni - who shape the international art world and play key roles in a huge range of professions beyond. Alumni include the Directors of the National Gallery and the British Museum, Head of Paintings Conservation at Tate, and further

afield, the Directors of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, the National Gallery of Art in Dublin and Conservator in Charge at The Metropolitan Museum in New York, to name only a few.

Our graduates are also entrepreneurs, lawyers, publishers, journalists, academics, and much, much more.

You will be joining us at a period of great change and excitement. The Courtauld Gallery - reopened to critical acclaim in 2021 - gives you constant, free access to a globally renowned collection of art and provides infinite opportunities for you to further develop your skills. We are also embarking on a series of initiatives to open The Courtauld up to new audiences and to ensure our student experience is relevant to today's challenges. These include a thrilling new partnership with King's College London, in which we will collaborate on teaching and research, and work together in ensuring the best possible experience for our students.

Our community of students and scholars is passionate about art history and committed to the very highest levels of achievement. If you feel the same, please apply to join us. We look forward to hearing from you!

**Professor Mark Hallett,  
Märit Rausing Director**





# About The Courtauld

**The Courtauld Institute of Art is a small, friendly, specialist centre for the study of art history, conservation and curating, with one of the UK's major art collections at its heart.**

Founded in 1932 as the UK's first institution devoted to the study of art, The Courtauld is an independent college of the University of London. Founders Samuel Courtauld, Viscount Lee of Fareham and Sir Robert Witt

believed passionately in the importance of art, the power it has in societies across the world, and the need to study and understand the ways in which it works.

The Courtauld has the largest faculty of art historians in the United Kingdom, who are working on an increasingly global scale. Recent appointments include specialists in lens and time-based art; early modern art and material culture; early modern European architecture; early Islamic arts; and

nineteenth-century art histories, as well as Buddhist art history and conservation; and modern and contemporary art and critical race art history. We have expertise across all periods - from the end of antiquity to the contemporary. Ours is a close-knit community of scholars, researchers and students pursuing a shared passion for art. We study, research and teach about art in all forms and all media, from the smallest, most personal painting or object to the design and evolution of whole cities; from medieval cathedrals, mosques and temples, to contemporary art including moving image, installation and performance art. Over the past 90 years,

The Courtauld has developed as the leading Art History department in the country, attracting outstanding students, teachers and researchers.

The Courtauld is one of the world's leading centres in the world for research and teaching of conservation, with a long-standing specialisation in the conservation of easel paintings and wall paintings, with and one of the first labs to be established in the UK for the technical study of paint materials and methods. Today the department has an expanded and interdisciplinary focus that also encompasses conservation of Buddhist Heritage, both tangible and intangible, within a broad geographical remit. Conservation students have access to labs and studios which are newly refurbished and equipped with cutting edge analytical facilities, as well as archives of treatment reports, materials, samples, fragments and technical images spanning a vast historical and geographical range.

With around 600 students taking degrees from BA to PhD, you will meet students from all courses and years.



We have a lively research culture, attracting some of the leading artists and figures in art history, museums and galleries from around the art world. They contribute to our Research Forum programme, which offers lectures, conferences, workshops and seminars supporting advanced inquiry in the history of art, conservation and curating.

Outside formal studies, students continue to engage and interrogate their subjects through societies, Research Forum and professional networking events. Our graduates are a testament to the lasting impact of studying at The Courtauld, and go on to have a tremendous impact in the arts, creative and cultural sectors, as well as in law, journalism, technology, marketing, finance, and other non-arts sectors.

### **Research Excellence Framework 2021**

The Courtauld's research has been assessed as world-leading in the REF, a national exercise to determine the quality and impact of research in UK universities. The exercise measures the quality and impact of research submitted across all disciplines. Across all UK institutions, The Courtauld tied 1st for research environment, critical given that this supports and enables our world-leading research. The Courtauld tied 12th in the UK for 4\* research overall, and 6th for 4\* outputs. 89% of The Courtauld's research was deemed world-leading or internationally excellent in terms of originality, significance and rigour.





**You'll be part of the University of London and have access to King's College London**

Studying at The Courtauld offers a unique experience in London. As a student with us, you will have the opportunity to study in a small, world-class, art-focused institution within the heart of the city.

### **University of London**

As a part of the University of London confederation, you will also be part of a community of over 250,000 students and have access to various benefits and opportunities. This includes access to important facilities, such as the Senate House Library (as well as the social spaces of Bloom@Senate House). You'll also have access to the University of London Housing Service and be able to join a wealth of clubs and societies including sailing, swimming, athletics, rowing, and more.

**“The Courtauld is a great place to study, and it was also part of the University of London, so I could join their boat club. I was very determined that one wouldn't affect the other. I was very, very organised.”**

Emily Craig, Gold Medal Winner,  
Lightweight Women's Double Sculls,  
Paris Olympics, 2024

### **King's College London**

The Courtauld has a groundbreaking strategic relationship with King's College London, in recognition of our mutual commitment to excellence and a shared recognition of the role that the arts and culture play in Higher Education in the UK.

This relationship offers our students many benefits to further enrich their experience at The Courtauld. On some of our taught programmes, students take modules at KCL as part of their degrees. On our MA Art and Business, students will study a module at the KCL Business School, and our MA Contemporary Art and the Moving Image is collaboratively taught with KCL's Film Studies department.

→ **All students have access to KCL campuses, libraries, bars and leisure spaces across London, and enjoy KCL Sport and Wellness, including gyms, BeActive, and NHS Health Centre.**



# Our campus

**The majority of The Courtauld's teaching is conducted at our Vernon Square campus in King's Cross. The Conservation programmes are primarily located at Somerset House.**

Located five minutes from King's Cross Station in a dynamic and vibrant part of London, Vernon Square is within walking distance of some of London's finest research and cultural facilities, including the British Library and the University of London's Senate House.

We offer an excellent student experience and learning environment, with purpose-built lecture theatres and seminar rooms, as well as digital resources and our library with around 200,000 books.

→ **We are close to some of the world's biggest museums and collections, including the British Library, the British Museum and The National Gallery.**

There are also lesser-known gems, such as the Foundling Museum – the first public art gallery in London – and the Wellcome Collection. There is a strong sense of community in King's Cross, with an exciting cultural scene and a thriving community.

You will be able to access our extraordinary permanent collection at Somerset House. We are currently undertaking a major transformation project to make The Courtauld's world-class artworks, research and teaching accessible to even more people. The first stage of the project was completed in November 2021, when The Courtauld Gallery and the new Learning Centre opened to the public and the construction of the West Wing Conservation Studios and Object Study Room were completed.



# History of Art



# Graduate Diploma in the History of Art

**Duration: 9 months, full-time**

**Intake: 30 students per year**

**Location: Vernon Square campus**

**Degree awarded by: University of London**

**The Graduate Diploma is a concentrated form of the undergraduate degree and gives graduates of other disciplines the opportunity to apply their existing skills to the study of Art History.**

The curriculum offers teaching across an unrivalled breadth of periods and cultures. You will have the opportunity to study art and architecture from late antiquity to the present, and from across the globe: from Byzantium to the Early Modern Islamic World, from Medieval and Renaissance Europe to the Buddhist Arts of Asia, to Contemporary China to Black Art Histories.

Our teachers are researchers at the cutting edge of their areas of specialism and they share their knowledge, discoveries and ideas with you in seminars, lectures, gallery visits and tutorials. The modules we teach are directly shaped by the tutor's research and partly for that reason change from year to year - modules outlined below are therefore indicative of subjects that may be on offer.

The Courtauld Graduate Diploma in the History of Art is designed to equip students who hold an undergraduate degree or equivalent in another discipline with the broad art historical knowledge and transferable skills needed to engage critically with art historical debates, transition into a career in the arts, or undertake further postgraduate study.

The programme is supported by a personal tutor and by study sessions and workshops on topics such as reading art historical texts and essay writing. Students have access to all that The Courtauld has to offer, including world-class lectures, seminars and symposia run by the Research Forum, careers events and one-to-one sessions with professional writers.

## Structure

In each semester, you will take a 'Foundations' module, offering a broad picture of art historical themes and methods. You will also take two further core modules, examining works of art as physical objects (Physical Histories) and



scrutinising the role that museums play in society (Exhibiting Art). Alongside these, you will take a selection of modules across the two semesters, devoted to looking in depth at themes, periods and approaches in the History of Art (Histories and Approaches). Finally, you will write a 5,000-word dissertation, supported by a supervisor, which allows you to explore a particular issue and develop your independent research skills. The teaching is a mixture of lectures (with up to 150 students) and seminars (in groups of 10-15 students).

The Graduate Diploma consists of the following elements:

### 1. Foundations 1 and 2:

A series of lectures, dealing with a range of major themes and issues from antiquity to the present day across the globe, which runs in two parts in semesters 1 and 2. It is supported by discussion classes of about 15 students which help

you to build up your confidence in looking, thinking, discussing, and writing about Art History.

### 2. Physical Histories:

A module taken in semester 1, taught with input from colleagues in our conservation department, which encourages you to understand and interpret works of art via close looking at their material characteristics. Teaching takes the form of lectures, supported by small group discussions, workshops and visits.

### 3. Exhibiting Art:

In semester 2, you move to considering the role of museums in societies (past, present, and future), and how display contexts can shape (and also limit) the understanding of works of art and architecture. Making use of London collections, you will think analytically about the particular display choices, methods and narratives adopted by different museums and galleries.

#### 4. Optional modules:

In semesters 1 and 2, you take two of several available modules, exploring different art histories (Histories) and critical methods (Approaches). Histories is taught weekly through one lecture and one seminar, and Approaches through a weekly seminar. These modules are assigned taking into account student preference, but please note that in order to retain small group teaching and appropriate range across your Diploma, we are unable to guarantee specific choices. The modules on offer differ in any given year, but have previously included:

- Art and Cold War Politics
- Artists, Radicals, Mystics: European Art, 1760-1830
- Landscape and Environment in Early Modern China
- Art History and Social Justice
- Embodiments: The Body as Subject and Object in Medieval Art
- Facsimile Debates: From AI to Plato
- Sexual Politics
- Ways of Seeing and Being Seen: The Politics of Vision in Modern and Contemporary art

#### 5. Dissertation:

Beginning in semester 1, you will be supported in honing your research skills, defining an area you wish to explore, and establishing appropriate parameters, research questions and approaches before embarking on a sustained piece of work in semester 2, supervised by a member of our teaching faculty and culminating in a 5,000-word dissertation. For many students, this is one of the most rewarding aspects of the Diploma.

#### Entry requirements

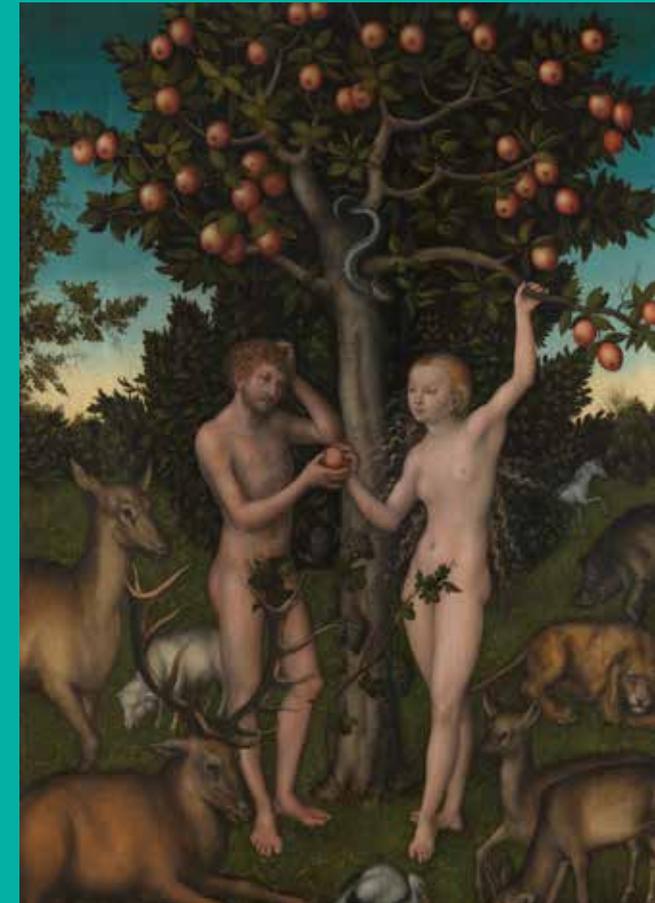
Applicants should hold or be predicted to achieve the equivalent of the following:

**UK qualifications:** Students will normally have achieved a good 2.1 in their Bachelor's degree.

**Overseas qualification:** Equivalent to a good 2.1 in a UK first degree (e.g. US applicants should have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above).

We welcome applicants with other forms of academic and relevant professional experience. Please note applicants may be invited to interview on a case-by-case basis.

→ Please see our website for information about the application process:  
[courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply](http://courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply)



Lucas Cranach the Elder  
(1472-1553),  
*Adam and Eve*, 1526.  
The Courtauld, London  
(Samuel Courtauld Trust).  
Photo © The Courtauld



# MA History of Art

**Intake: 230 - 250 students per year**  
**Duration: 9 months, full-time**  
**Location: Vernon Square campus**  
**Degree awarded by: University of London**

**The Courtauld's MA in History of Art is one of the largest graduate Art History programmes anywhere in the world and offers an unrivalled combination of breadth and depth.**

The programme provides the best research-led teaching in a unique, single-subject setting. This rich academic resource is complemented by the internationally renowned excellence of the Courtauld Gallery, which is famous for the quality of its collection and the ambition and scholarship of its exhibition programme.

The programme excels at developing well-rounded and intellectually astute art historians and museum professionals equipped to make an important contribution to public life. It offers a context and foundation for any career that requires a deep understanding of people and the human experience: from marketing and advertising to fashion and design.

The MA History of Art combines a range of modules and teaching methods. Special Option modules are taught across both semesters. Offering new perspectives on

visual and material cultures, the Special Options draw on the research expertise of lecturers and often engage closely with adjacent studies in history, anthropology, politics, philosophy, literature and religion. The Special Option is complemented by two group modules that address key art historical and curatorial concerns through a combination of lectures and discussion classes, aimed to develop your academic and professional abilities. The final module is the Dissertation, which allows you to develop an independent research project, supported by a series of workshops and seminars to build a range of research skills that are relevant beyond academic study. The MA is an intensive 9 month programme.

Across the programme lecturers take full advantage of The Courtauld's location in the heart of London and aim to expand your professional network and horizons by organising regular exhibition and site visits in London, the UK and beyond, with costs covered by travel grants.

In addition to the mandatory elements of the MA in History of Art, students are invited



to continue to expand their engagement with new art-historical research by attending the series of seminars and conferences organised by The Courtauld's Research Forum, as well as those hosted by other institutions across London. You are also able to audit some lecture programmes (via recordings) including the wide-ranging "Foundations" series that runs across semesters 1 and 2.

### Teaching and programme structure

The Courtauld MA History of Art combines a range of modules and teaching methods.

### Special Options

These typically take the form of small group discussion seminars, but may also include exhibition or site visits, and – depending on topic – can include trips in or beyond London or the UK.

In some cases, Special Option groups cluster together in the Autumn semester for joint sessions on issues of common concern, before dividing into more specialised groups in the Spring semester. One-to-one tutorials ensure you get tailored feedback on ideas for your assessments from your Special Option tutor.

### Critical Debates

In the Autumn semester, students from different Special Option groups come together for 'Critical Debates' around particular themes or problems of relevance to their Special Option – interrogating the idea of 'The Middle Ages', for example, or examining the migration of people, objects and ideas since the 19th century. Taught through a combination of lectures and discussion seminars, 'Critical Debates' provides opportunities for students to engage with issues of broad concern in their chosen art-historical subfield. Students will be taught alongside those from the MA Curating and MA Contemporary Art and the Moving Image, expanding your peer network.

### Virtual Exhibition

The Spring semester group module focuses more heavily on questions of display, curation and exhibition, taking advantage of London's museums and galleries, including The Courtauld Gallery. It is taught through lectures and discussion groups and culminates in a 'Virtual Exhibition', an exercise that encourages students to conceive an (imaginary) exhibition or display, judiciously selecting exhibits and writing, for example, a sample label and catalogue entry. The Virtual Exhibition is a visually-led exercise that allows students to develop arguments through

the selection and juxtaposition of artworks. The Virtual Exhibition often produces some of our students' most original and inventive work and has served for many as a stepping stone into issues of museology and curating.

### Dissertation

The final component of the MA is the 10,000-word dissertation, submitted in May. A series of classes and workshops help you to prepare for this independently researched assessment, complemented by one-to-one tutorials with a lecturer with specialism in your chosen field (typically your Special Option tutor). Courtauld MA dissertations are often highly original contributions to scholarship across a wide field, regularly commended by external examiners for being of publishable quality.

### Assessment

The MA History of Art is formally assessed on:

- 2 x 4,000-word Special Option essays, submitted in the Autumn and Spring.
- A 'Critical Debates' portfolio of short written exercises, submitted in the Autumn.
- A Virtual Exhibition assignment, submitted in the Spring.
- A 10,000-word dissertation, submitted in May.

The MA is an intensive 9-month programme.

### Entry Requirements

Applicants should hold or be predicted to achieve the equivalent of the following:

**UK qualifications:** Students will normally have achieved a good 2.1 in their Bachelor's degree (typically in the Humanities or Social Sciences).

**Overseas qualifications:** Equivalent to a GPA average of 3.5 or above



Please see our website for information about the application process: [courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply](https://courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply)



# MA History of Art

## Special Options 2025/26

All MA Special Option teaching is research-led. In making your choices, please explore our faculty profile pages on the website to discover more about individual research interests and approaches to art history:

[courtauld.ac.uk/research/faculty/](https://courtauld.ac.uk/research/faculty/)

Please note: Special Options vary from year to year and are subject to demand. The Courtauld reserves the right to amend or withdraw the options which run if necessary. In the event that a course tutor is on sabbatical, takes up a fellowship,

or otherwise is not able to teach the course, they will be replaced by another experienced course tutor either for a semester or, in some cases, the academic year.

Whilst many Special Options will include site visits within the UK and further afield, these are subject to confirmation.

The Courtauld will always directly inform all applicants of any changes via email and the Courtauld website [courtauld.ac.uk/ma-hoa](https://courtauld.ac.uk/ma-hoa)



**Special Option: Victorian Art and Its Afterlives.**  
Martita Hunt as Miss Havisham in David Lean, *Great Expectations* (UK, 1946).

- American Art in the Age of Ecology
- Architecture and Empire: Imperial Legacies at Home and Abroad, c.1620- c. 1920
- Art and Architecture in Medieval Spain: Christian, Muslim and Jewish Entanglements, 700-1500
- Art and the Matter of Global Encounter in Early Modern France, c. 1550-1820
- Art, Oceans, and the British Empire, c.1750-1900
- Art, Scale and the Body in Medieval Europe, 1200–1550
- Beijing and Beyond: Art and Empire in Early Modern China, c.1600-1900
- Black British Art, 1945 to now
- Black Futures: Rethinking Modernism (1900 to now)
- Body and Experience in Renaissance Art
- Byzantium and its Rivals: Artistic encounters across the medieval Mediterranean
- Court and Commerce: Arts of Islam and the Great Mongol State, 1206-1368
- Culture Wars: Art and Socialism since 1917
- Experiencing Modernism: Utopia, Politics, and Times of Turmoil, 1900-1950
- Global Conceptualism. The last avant-garde or a new beginning?
- Meticulous Symmetries: The Arts and Mathematics in Medieval Iraq and Iran (c.900-1300)
- New York-London-Paris, 1880-1940
- Painters in the Studio, 1945 to now
- Reinterpreting the Object. Late Medieval and Renaissance Art in Northern Europe c. 1360-1520
- Talking pictures: Images and Ideas in Medieval Art, 1000-1300
- The Sixties: Eccentric, Erotic, Psychotic
- The Surrealist Century: Mediums, Madness, Magic
- Victorian Art and its Afterlives
- Wordplay: The Verbal and the Visual c. 1870 to the present



**Special Option: Black Futures: Rethinking Modernism (1900 to now).**  
Detail, Claudette Johnson, *Blues Dance*, 2003 Courtauld Gallery. Courtesy of the artist and Hollybush Gardens, London © Claudette Johnson



**Special Option: Architectural Legacies of Empire at Home and Abroad, c.1620- c.1920**  
Stamp issued on 9 February, 1931 to mark the inauguration of New Delhi as the capital of India showing Sir Edwin Lutyens' (1869 - 1944)

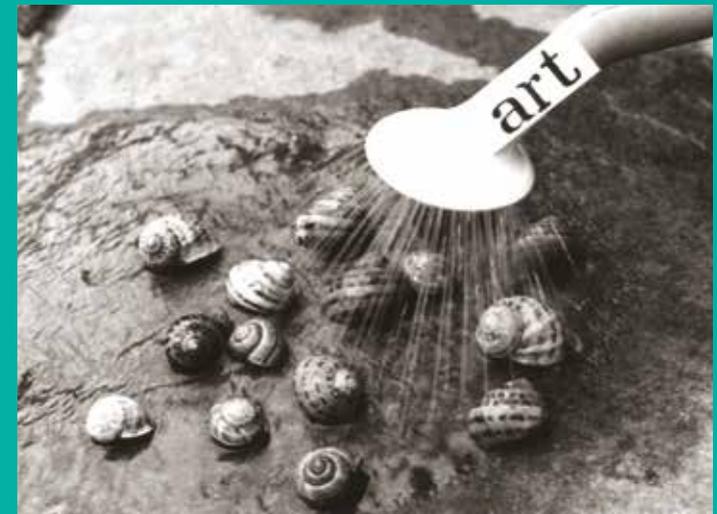


**Special Option: Byzantium and its Rivals: Artistic encounters across the medieval Mediterranean**  
Detail of ivory oliphant from South Italy or Sicily, c.1100. Now in the National Museums Scotland.



**Special Option: Body and Experience in Renaissance Art**  
Frock and Slops of a Conquistador, Peru, ca. 1560, cotton, linen and blood, Ingolstadt, Bavarian Army Museum.

**Special Option: Body and Experience in Renaissance Art**  
Pietà, detail, Michelangelo, 1498, St Peter's Basilica, Vatican City.



**Special Option: Culture Wars: Art and Socialism since 1917**  
Detail of *Snail Action (piece 1 of 2)*, 1972, Géza Pernecky, Courtesy of the artist and Chimera-Project Gallery, Budapest, Hungary

# MA in Art and Business

**Intake: 24 students per year**

**Duration: 12 months, full-time**

**Location: Vernon Square campus and King's College London**

**Degree awarded by: University of London**

**MA in Art and Business, taught in collaboration with King's Business School, offers an unparalleled opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge you'll need to succeed in today's commercial art world.**

You'll learn from an extraordinary range of experts through an MA that draws on The Courtauld's rich resources as a centre for learning about the visual arts and King's excellence in business teaching.

The programme will offer you a unique insight into the ecology of today's art markets and provide an in-depth understanding of the systems underpinning them. You'll explore the development of art markets since the seventeenth century, and how the market has transformed artistic practice. You'll also gain the financial, business, and entrepreneurial expertise required to succeed in the art world.

During the programme, you will engage regularly with some of the most successful and influential figures of today's art world, including gallerists, auction house specialists, art lawyers, art advisors, curators, artists and critics. You'll also be able to work

directly with The Courtauld's exceptional art collection and benefit from the experience of going on regular field trips with your tutors, including an all-group field trip to Europe.

## Teaching and programme structure

The programme is structured around core and topic modules.

**Core modules** offer a comprehensive exploration of the art market and its history while providing invaluable expertise in the financial, business and entrepreneurial skills required for success in the contemporary art world.

**Topic Modules** are taught over single semesters by members of the Courtauld's Art and Business faculty and will provide students with the opportunity to study a specific Art and Business topic in depth. Emerging out of the research interests of the faculty and designed to encourage independent student reading and research, these topic models will also help give students the research and writing skills they will require to produce their final dissertation or art business project. Students will be required

to take one topic focusing on a historical area and one with a contemporary focus.

You will also produce a **final dissertation** or an **art business project**. These are independently researched and written projects chosen in discussion with one of the Art and Business faculty. The dissertation can have a historical, contemporary or transhistorical focus, and will require an extended period of independent research that engages critically with the existing historiography of the subject and with relevant primary sources. The art business project will demonstrate your skills in evaluating the professional environment of the art market and in applying your learning in a practical context.

## Assessment

The formal assessment of MA Art and Business is based on the following components:

- Core Module (Understanding the Art Market): 1 x 2,500-word paper to be presented and submitted by the end of Semester 1; Group research project, to be presented and submitted by the end of Semester 2.
- Core Module (Histories of the Art Market): 2 x 2,500-word papers to be presented and submitted by the end of each semester.
- Core Module (The Business of Art): Group/team pitch of a

business plan (by the end of semester 2) and a 1,500-word individual, reflective essay on business plan development (by the end of semester 2).

- 2 x Topic Modules (Collecting in Times of Crisis/Revisiting the Art Fair): 2 x 3000-word essays to be handed in at the beginning of the semester/study period following the semester in which the teaching takes place.
- Dissertation (10,000 words) or equivalent Art Business Project.

## Entry Requirements

Applicants should hold or be predicted to achieve the equivalent of the following:

**UK qualifications:** Students will normally have achieved a good 2.1 in their Bachelor's degree.

**Overseas qualification:** Equivalent to a good 2.1 in a UK first degree (e.g. US applicants should have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above).

We welcome applicants with other forms of academic and relevant professional experience. Please note that applicants may be invited to interview on a case-by-case basis.

 Please see our website for information about the application process: [courtauld.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/postgraduate-applications/](https://courtauld.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/postgraduate-applications/)

# MA Curating

**Intake: 24 students per year**

**Duration: 12 months, full-time**

**Location: Vernon Square campus**

**Degree awarded by: University of London**

**The MA Curating at The Courtauld offers an unmatched opportunity to immerse yourself in the theory and practice of curating in a unique scholarly and professional context.**

The Courtauld houses one of the world's most ambitious and extensive graduate programmes focusing on the history, curating, and conservation of art. This rich academic resource is complemented by the internationally renowned curatorial excellence of the Courtauld Gallery, which is famous for the quality of its collection as well as the ambition and scholarship underpinning its exhibition programme.

Embedded within this extraordinary setting, The Courtauld's MA in Curating provides students with a research-led approach to an increasingly diverse and stimulating area of intellectual and professional practice. The programme offers intensive training that focuses on the issues that shape the curatorial field, and on their practical implications for today's art world.

Grounded in seminar-based learning, the programme develops practical skills and knowledge. Site visits across London and the UK will be organised, and visiting speakers including curators, museum professionals and artists will expand your professional networks and horizons. You will work collaboratively towards a number of exciting group projects aimed at developing your academic and professional abilities and that extend the practice of curating into the fields of programming, fundraising, publishing and more. The course aims to train professionals to the highest standards and prepare them for positions across the cultural sector.

## Teaching and programme structure

The course is structured around **core** and **elective** modules. Core modules offer in-depth explorations of the histories, theoretical debates and critical practices that shape the curatorial field today. They are informed, among other perspectives, by calls to widen our understanding of art history, to decolonise and decarbonise, and to foster diversity and inclusion across



gender, race, ability and class. The elective modules are designed to provide practical and professional experiences, working with small groups and a focused topic, theme or approach to curating.

The dissertation will allow you to produce an in-depth, independent piece of academic scholarship. The dissertation will be of 8,000 words and you will be supported in developing your research topic through the research skills workshops across Semesters 1 and 2, which will introduce you to advanced-level academic research and writing. Dissertation topics can be chosen from across the history and theory of curation, including exhibition histories and the detailed analysis of particular modes of curation.

## Assessment

The MA Curating is formally assessed on:

- Portfolios that include 3000-word essays and/or other short written tasks
- A Group Exhibition project
- An 8000-word dissertation

## Entry Requirements

Applicants should hold or be predicted to achieve the equivalent of the following:

**UK qualifications:** Students will normally have achieved a good 2.1 in their Bachelor's degree.

**Overseas qualification:** Equivalent to a good 2.1 in a UK first degree (e.g. US applicants should have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above).

➔ Please see our website for information about the application process: [courtauld.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/postgraduate-applications/](https://courtauld.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/postgraduate-applications/)

# MA Contemporary Art and the Moving Image

**Intake:** 10-20 students per year

**Duration:** 12 months, full-time

**Location:** Vernon Square campus and King's College London

**Degree awarded by:** King's College London and the University of London

**The MA in Contemporary Art and the Moving Image (CAMI) is a new, collaborative degree programme focused on the vibrant intersection of contemporary art and moving image practice.**

This unique course merges the expertise in film studies and critical theory in the Film Studies department at King's College London with the specialised knowledge in modern and contemporary art history at The Courtauld. Shared between these two leading institutions, CAMI enriches students' learning by enabling both cross-disciplinary and cross-institutional exposure and experiences.

They are taught by a variety of specialist staff across the two institutions in modules that focus on artists' film and video, contemporary cinema, digital and time-based media, and curatorial practice, across different disciplinary and geographical contexts.

In writing their dissertation, they will be empowered to explore a research question that excites them, with support from academics who are leaders in their fields.

The programme is designed to help students develop their critical thinking, research, writing, public presentation and programming skills, which prepares them to work and excel in a wide range of professional and academic settings.

## Teaching and programme structure

Courses are divided into modules totalling 180 credits. Students will take 50% of modules at the Courtauld Institute of Art and 50% of modules at King's College London. Both institutions are centrally located on the Strand in London. **Modules** will offer a combination of historical, theoretical, and practical or applied approaches. Students will take two required core modules, one at The Courtauld on moving image art history and one at King's College on London Film Cultures, which involves site visits to galleries and cinemas across the city.



## Required modules

Required Modules (150 credits)

You are required to take:

- Histories and Theories of Contemporary Art and the Moving Image (30 credits) at The Courtauld
- London Film Cultures (30 credits) at KCL
- Critical Debates (15 credits) at the Courtauld
- Examining Exhibitions (title tbc) (15 credits) at the Courtauld
- Dissertation (60 credits)

## Optional modules

Optional Modules (30 credits) You are required to take 30 credits from a range of optional modules in the Film Studies department at KCL, which may typically include:

- Media Aesthetics
- Topics in American Cinema
- Thinking Cinema
- Critical Media Practice
- Topics in Global Cinema
- Topics in European Cinema
- Topics in Asian Cinema
- Media, Space and Place
- History, Society and the Screen

King's College London reviews the modules offered on a regular basis to provide up-to-date, innovative and relevant programmes of study. Therefore, modules offered may change. We suggest you keep an eye on the course finder on KCL's website for updates. Please note that modules with a practical component will be capped due to educational requirements, which may mean that we cannot guarantee a place to all students who elect to study this module.

## Assessment

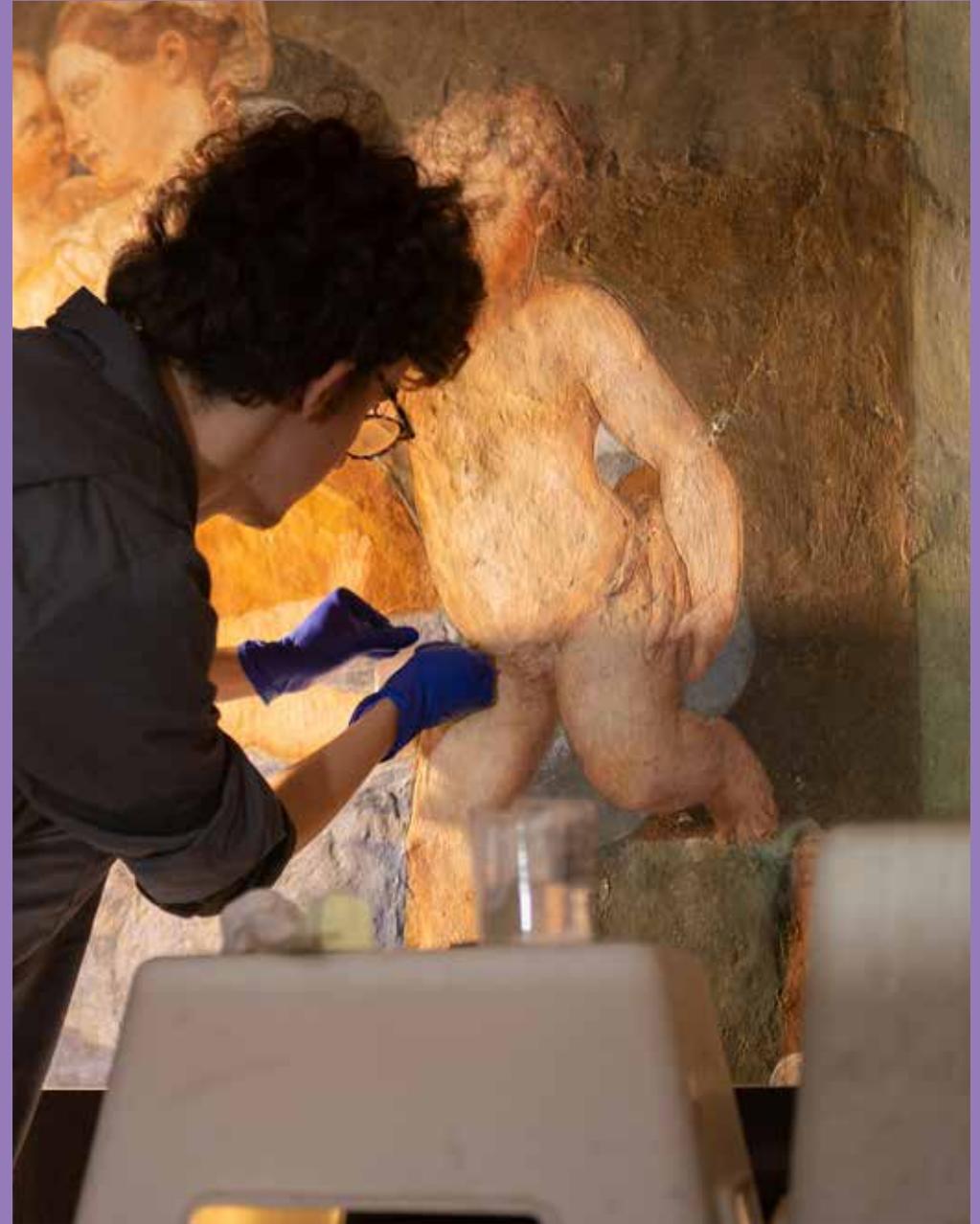
You will be assessed through a variety of coursework (contributing 100% of your final mark). Forms of assessment may include:

- Essays and short reports
- Individual and group projects
- Filmmaking, curating, and other forms of audio-visual presentation
- Dissertation

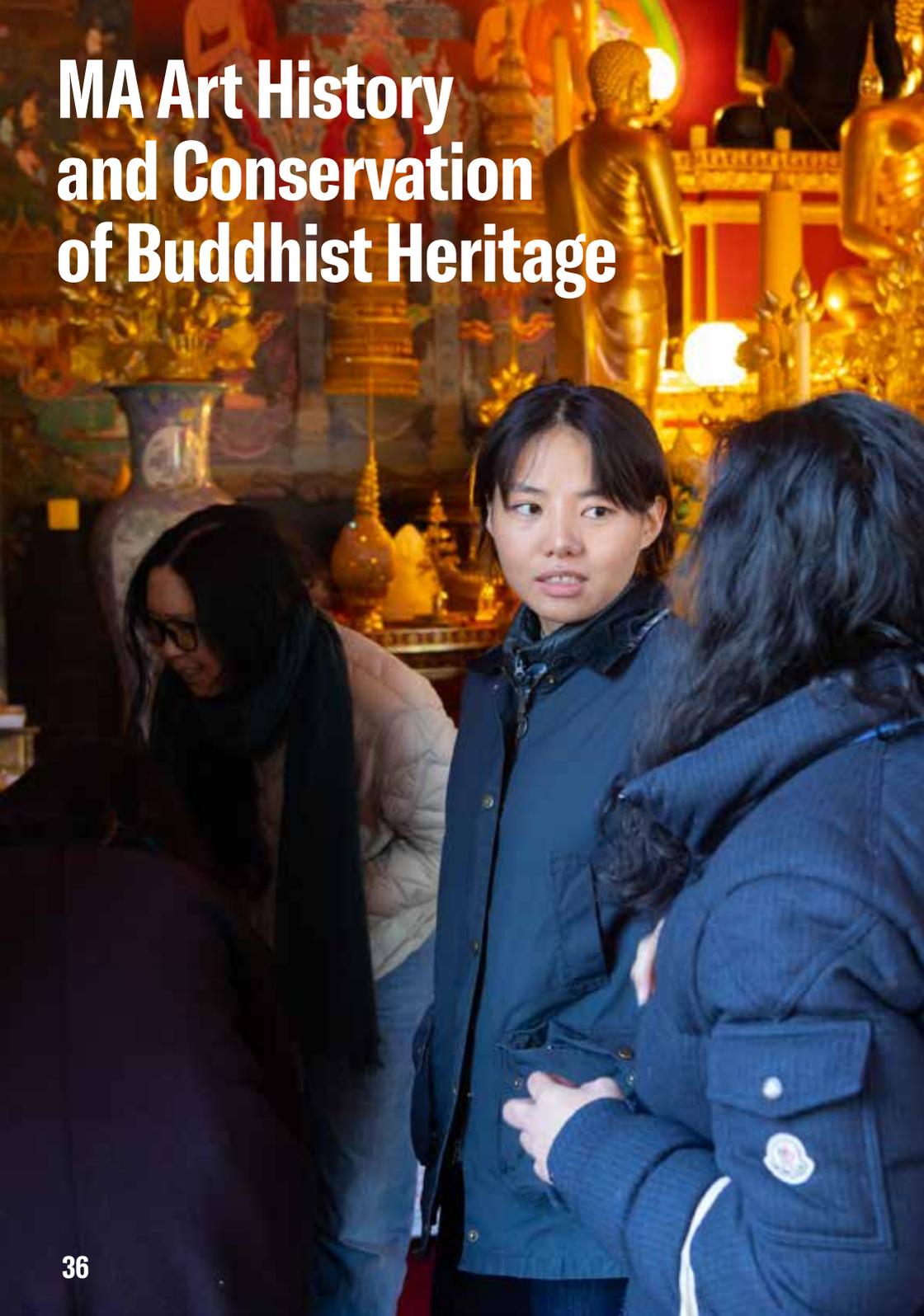
## Entry Requirements

Please see KCL's webpage for this programme to see details of entry requirements.

# Conservation



# MA Art History and Conservation of Buddhist Heritage



**Intake: 12 students**

**Duration: 12 months, full-time**

**Location: Somerset House and Vernon Square campus**

**Degree awarded by: University of London**

**Affiliated with the Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Centre for Buddhist Art and Conservation at The Courtauld, this MA programme is unique in its concept, content, and structure and harnesses the combined perspectives of art history and conservation.**

This interdisciplinary programme expands the ways in which Buddhist heritage is researched and cared for in order to build new knowledge as well as critical thinking and collaborative skills in the next generation of art historians, conservators, heritage and museum professionals.

You'll gain an understanding of Buddhist heritage—both tangible and intangible—through the study of diverse objects and sites from the Buddhist world, in collections and in situ, spanning wide geographies, cultures, and temporal landscapes. You'll learn about current topics in the research, preservation, and protection of Buddhist heritage and the economic, socio-political,

and environmental contexts in which they exist. Students will also be introduced to the ethical and sustainable challenges of these pursuits from both a theoretical and practical vantage point.

The degree is taught by leading specialists in conservation and Buddhist art history and brings in diverse voices from related fields and religious communities. The degree is exceptional for its small class size and individualised teaching. Buddhist heritage is explored both in the classroom and in the field and is taught by a wide range of scholars including art historians, conservators, Buddhologists, curators, archaeologists, scientists, heritage professionals, and the Buddhist sangha to create a rich learning environment. Students have special access to museums, temples, and archaeological sites in the UK and overseas, and exclusive object study sessions and behind-the-scenes tours of conservation studios and scientific labs. However, you will not practice interventive

conservation treatment as part of this MA, but instead gain a broad understanding of issues in the conservation of Buddhist heritage.

The Courtauld MA provides students with outstanding tailored support and supervision to help you realise your full academic potential and to flourish in a meaningful career. A graduate of The Courtauld recognizes art history, conservation, and curating as inclusive, interdisciplinary, trans-historical, and global practices. This MA programme also serves to prepare students for further specialist education in art history, conservation, curating, heritage studies, and for roles in museums or within the cultural heritage sector.

### Structure

The programme is structured in three research-led modules taught over two semesters and concludes with an independent research project during the summer. In the first semester, students will take two foundational modules, Conservation in a Buddhist Context, and Buddhist Art Worlds.

Teaching is then integrated into a single module in the second

semester, focused on Art History and Conservation of Buddhist Heritage. Experiential learning is an important component of this program that exposes students to a rich body of Buddhist heritage through site visits to UK-based collections as well as the opportunity of a research trip to Asia to develop an appreciation for living heritage sites, to meet professionals and religious communities, and to provide first-hand experience of conservation and management challenges. During the summer, students will complete a 10,000-word dissertation. Throughout the year-long programme, students receive academic skills support.

Learning outcomes include providing students with a specialized knowledge of diverse Buddhist art worlds along with analytical, research, and writing skills, and research fieldwork experiences both in the UK and in Asia; approaches to conservation and an understanding of the ethical, technical, and administrative contexts, philosophical underpinnings, and decision-making processes in the preservation of Buddhist heritage. The broader learning



outcomes for this course will provide transferable skills that have wider applicability beyond just the Buddhist context to other religious and spiritual cultures and traditions.



Please note that this is subject to change; applicants will be informed if there are any changes to the programme.

### Entry requirements

**UK qualifications:** Students will normally have achieved a good 2.1 in their Bachelor's degree.

**Overseas qualification:** Equivalent to a good 2.1 in a UK first degree (e.g. US applicants should have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above).

Scholarships for this programme are funded by the Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Centre for Buddhist Art and Conservation.

# MA Conservation of Easel Paintings

**Intake: 6 students**

**Duration: Three years, full-time**

**Location: Somerset House and  
Vernon Square campus**

**The MA in the Conservation of Easel Paintings is a 3-year full-time programme which will prepare you for a professional career in the conservation of paintings and beyond. Its interdisciplinary nature combines art history, fine arts and the natural sciences. Applicants usually have a BA or equivalent degree in any of these subjects.**

Studying the Conservation of Easel Paintings at The Courtauld offers the opportunity for a rigorous theoretical training that is accompanied by the opportunity to put learning into practice throughout. From the very first weeks of study, students are immersed in studio work, at first by the creation of replica paintings, and quickly moving to the closely supervised treatment of paintings from public and private collections in the UK. With access to cutting edge scientific equipment, students learn to carry out imaging and analysis that helps them to understand the materials and making of paintings. Over three years, students build a portfolio of treatment and research that allows them to apply for diverse careers in museums, research institutes and

private sector conservation studios and labs, or to continue studying at PhD level.

The degree is taught by specialists in paintings conservation, technical art history and conservation science, with many years of collective experience of working in the conservation sector. This sector knowledge informs the teaching, which is tailored to the evolving needs of the profession, with the aim of producing highly employable graduates. The programme excels in developing conservators with research and critical skills that allow them to flourish in a wide range of challenging careers.

This course attracts an international student body, with a yearly intake limited to six students, which makes the teacher student ratio exceptionally high. Theoretical classes are delivered in small group seminars, and each year group is based in their own studio for practical work, sharing additional facilities for photographic imaging, scientific analysis, and specialist structural treatments.



The strong practical and intellectual focus of the degree is reflected in courses designed to build on knowledge and to develop both practical and decision-making skills underpinned by ethical and scientific principles.

After graduating you will have gained practical experience in a range of real easel paintings conservation treatments and will

be able to design, carry out and evaluate conservation treatments proficiently and independently. You will be able to interpret results from technical study and relate them to practice and will be able to plan and develop original research relating to easel painting conservation. You will gain critical and communication skills that will equip you for diverse careers in conservation and beyond.

## Structure

### Year 1

This year focuses on the acquisition of foundation knowledge and the development and application of scientific methods. Practical work in the studio forms a substantial part of each term, beginning with replica-making and the examination of easel paintings, and then introducing the application of principles and theory of conservation to practical conservation.

Other modules focus on the theory, ethics and practice of conservation, technology and history of easel paintings, art history and technical study. Applied science is integrated throughout theoretical and practical modules. The teaching provides a foundation for understanding and identifying the condition and conservation requirements of easel paintings.

### Year 2

The majority of time in the second year is devoted to practical work in the studio, with students becoming increasingly independent in

carrying out conservation work. Lectures and workshops are devoted to preventive conservation and collections care with a monitoring exercise, and advanced principles and theory of conservation.

### Year 3

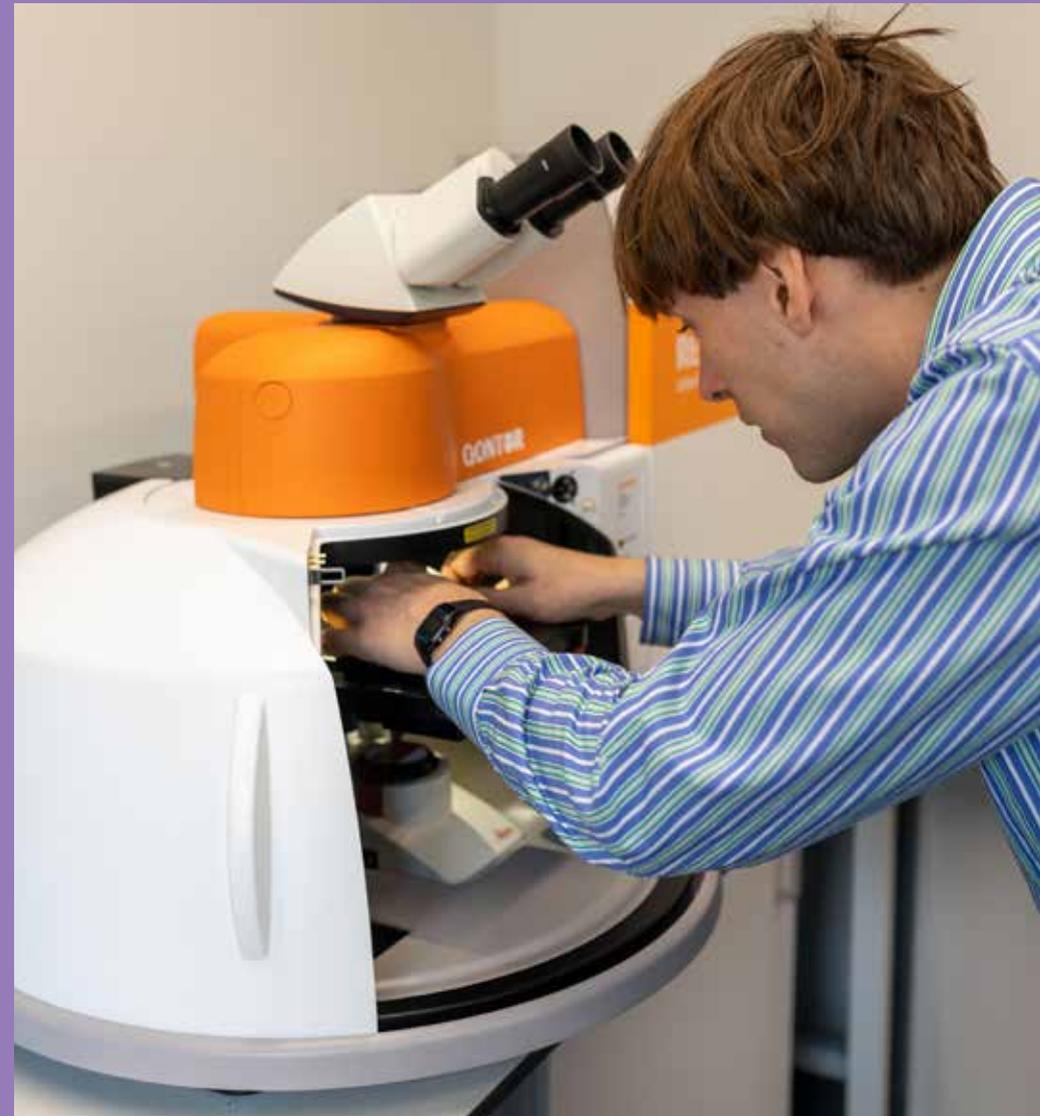
The majority of the academic year is spent in the conservation studio undertaking practical conservation treatments, with lectures on advanced principles and theory of conservation. One third of the final year is devoted to an independent research project resulting in a dissertation.

### Entry requirements

**UK qualifications:** Successful applicants will normally hold a Bachelor's degree in either Fine Art, History of Art, or in the Natural Sciences, and have achieved a good 2.1.

**Overseas qualification:** Equivalent to a good 2.1 in a UK first degree (e.g. US applicants should have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above).

➔ Please see our website for information about the application process:  
**[courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply](http://courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply)**



# Research



# PhD Programme

**Intake: Around 10 - 20 students**

**Duration: Full-time: Three years,**

**Part-time: Six years**

**The PhD degree at the Courtauld is an ambitious, rigorous, and internationally renowned programme with a global outlook and unparalleled strengths in art history, conservation and curating.**

It enables postgraduate researchers to redefine the boundaries of art history, conservation and curating by promoting innovative and interdisciplinary research.

At The Courtauld you will join a diverse cohort of over 100 postgraduate researchers drawn from the UK and internationally to study a wide range of topics and approaches in an intellectually stimulating research-intensive environment.

You will benefit from the supervision of subject experts who work at the forefront of their respective fields. Members of faculty have extensive experience of advanced research including curating major exhibitions of historic and contemporary art, editing and publishing in leading academic journals, winning competitive research grants, speaking publicly in a great variety

of institutions and events, and working in archives and collections worldwide. To learn more about current faculty at The Courtauld, visit: [courtauld.ac.uk/faculty](http://courtauld.ac.uk/faculty)

Alongside close supervisory guidance, you will benefit from researcher training, cohort and network-building activities, and professional development opportunities, designed to support you at all stages of your doctoral degree.

At The Courtauld, you will become part of a vibrant intellectual community. A rich programme of research events hosted by the Research Forum will give you access to cutting-edge new research and ideas and the opportunity to build your academic network. Postgraduate researchers play an active role in inviting speakers, devising and convening research activity, and participating in events for academic and public audiences.

Postgraduate researchers are valuable members of our dynamic research clusters, which bring together specialist researchers from within and beyond The



Courtauld to exchange and develop new knowledge and innovative ideas. Major research centres, including the Manton Centre for British Art and the Courtauld Centre for the Art of the Americas, represent world-leading concentrations of research expertise and new thinking. Our active research partnerships with a range of organisations across the cultural sector, including the National Trust and English Heritage, enable applied understanding of advanced research.

Courtauld postgraduate researchers develop a wide range of professional experience. They edit and produce the postgraduate

journal *Immediations* and have opportunities to contribute curatorially in our gallery project space and prints and drawings room. Postgraduate researchers can also gain valuable teaching experience on our BA Art History degree and via our creative public programmes.

## **Entry requirements**

PhD applicants are expected to hold a Master's degree in a subject relevant to their proposed research. Those with MAs awarded in the UK normally have received at least 70% in the dissertation or thesis. Please see our website for information about the application process: [courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply](http://courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply)

# Fees and funding

## Fees

For up-to-date information about fees, please check our website: [courtauld.ac.uk/study/tuition-fees/](https://courtauld.ac.uk/study/tuition-fees/)

## General Associated Programme Costs

Programmes in the History of Art and Conservation departments often include local, UK and occasionally international study trips and fieldwork. Travel grants are available to cover the cost of these study trips, and there is a budget for exhibition entrance charges. Students will need to cover local travel costs in London for site or exhibition visits. International students may have to apply for visas for international travel, and module leaders will be in touch as early as possible to make students aware of this.

Other associated programme costs are typical to programmes in the humanities, such as the use of a laptop or computer, printer credits, travel to campus or local visits and graduation. Students may wish to purchase their own copies of some relevant reading materials, but all set texts are supplied through the

Courtauld's Library and Virtual Learning Environment. See Library webpage for more details on the range of resources available.

For further information about associated programme costs, please see the individual Programme webpages, or contact the Programme Leader.

## Postgraduate Master's Loan

Some students may be eligible for a Postgraduate Master's Loan from Student Finance. Unlike UK undergraduate Student Finance, this is a single loan that acts as a contribution towards the cost of study. The loan is paid to you directly to use in any way you choose. This means you will be responsible for arranging payment of your own tuition fees, as the loan will not go directly to The Courtauld like an undergraduate tuition fee loan.

You might be eligible if you:

- are a UK or EU national who has settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme
- under 60 on the first day of the first academic year of your course

- have not successfully completed an equivalent level qualification, regardless of whether it was self-funded, or undertaken abroad
- are undertaking a full-time MA programme lasting 1-2 academic years

Please visit the Gov.uk website for further information and to apply online: [gov.uk/masters-loan/](https://gov.uk/masters-loan/) apply

## Alumni loyalty scheme

This scheme is open to any graduate of the Courtauld Institute of Art admitted to a taught postgraduate programme of study. Recipients will receive a 10% loyalty discount off their tuition fee for the duration of the programme. This discount will be applied automatically and does not require any further action from applicants.

## Hardship Fund

The Courtauld Hardship Fund provides short-term emergency funds to meet the immediate financial needs. It is intended primarily to provide support for short-term urgent needs, such as living costs and rent and cannot be used in payment of tuition fees. It is open to all students studying at The Courtauld, including overseas students.

## Courtauld Institute of Art Scholarships

Thanks to the generosity of an international group of committed donors, The Courtauld is pleased to be able to provide financial assistance to postgraduate students when possible in the form of scholarships and bursaries. In 2024 this amounted to more than £750,000. Postgraduate scholarships are awarded to students to cover fees and in some cases a contribution towards living expenses. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic merit combined with financial need. In 2025/26 there will be a range of programme-specific scholarships, including up to ten Courtauld MA scholarships awarded in the sum of £15,500.

Applications are welcomed from Home, EU and Overseas students applying to or currently studying the following programmes in 2025/26:

- MA in Conservation of Easel Paintings
- MA Art History and Conservation of Buddhist Heritage
- MA History of Art
- MA Art and Business
- MA Curating
- MA Contemporary Art and the Moving Image
- PhD Research

→ For more information please check the website at: [courtauld.ac.uk/postgraduate-fees-funding-and-scholarships](https://courtauld.ac.uk/postgraduate-fees-funding-and-scholarships)

# Admissions



Applicants can apply directly to the Courtauld Institute of Art for entry in 2025 using our online application portal: [courtauld.ac.uk/pg-apply](https://courtauld.ac.uk/pg-apply)

## International Students

For advice on international entry requirements, please contact Student and Academic Services at: [pgadmissions@courtauld.ac.uk](mailto:pgadmissions@courtauld.ac.uk)

## English proficiency

For applicants whose first language is not English (as determined by the UK Visa and Immigration list of English-majority speaking countries) wishing to apply to The Courtauld, we require proof of English language proficiency. Details can be found on our English Language Requirements page: [courtauld.ac.uk/english-language](https://courtauld.ac.uk/english-language)

Students requiring a student visa to study in the UK must satisfy the requirements for English language before The Courtauld can issue a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS). As government guidance on English language test providers is subject to change, it is important to check The Courtauld's website for the most up-to-date information.

# Taught programmes

Decide which programme is right for you, reading through each programme description listed in the prospectus and online.

Check that you meet the entry requirements for the programme.

International students will need to check international qualification equivalencies, whilst also ensuring that they can/will meet the English language requirements.

## Check application deadlines

If you wish to apply for loans or scholarships: start researching which options are available to you. [courtauld.ac.uk/postgraduate-fees-funding-and-scholarships/](https://courtauld.ac.uk/postgraduate-fees-funding-and-scholarships/)

Any questions you have at this point – before starting to submit your application – should be made to [pgadmissions@courtauld.ac.uk](mailto:pgadmissions@courtauld.ac.uk)

Submit your application via the appropriate online application form: [courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply](https://courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply)

# PhD Programme

Determine which of our faculty best suits your research, and would be best placed to act as your supervisor: [courtauld.ac.uk/faculty](https://courtauld.ac.uk/faculty)

Check that you meet the entry requirements for the programme.

International students will need to check international qualification equivalencies, whilst also ensuring that they can/will meet the English language requirements.

## Check application deadlines

Submit a pre-application.

If you wish to apply for loans or scholarships, start researching which options are available to you.

**If you are applying for funding from an external source or your government, you should check requirements and deadlines well in advance.**

If your pre-application is approved, proceed to submit a full application.

Submit your application via the appropriate online application form: [courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply](https://courtauld.ac.uk/pg-how-to-apply)

# Student stories



**“ I am thankful to The Courtauld for having opened many doors for me ”**

## Francesco

Joining The Courtauld after a BSc in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics may have been one of the most rewarding decisions I have ever made. The MA in Art History has broadened my horizons and introduced me to unique perspectives on the study of art history, not just from a Western point of view, but by virtue of the diverse and multidisciplinary community that The Courtauld represents.

Being particularly passionate about modern art, I chose the MA Special Option on Modernism after Postmodernism, focused on the impact of Postmodernism on the legacy of European Modernism, and especially Surrealism, taught by Professor Gavin Parkinson. It was amazing to read and learn about the foundations of 20th-century art directly from the key original texts, with the support of The Courtauld Library and the many libraries,

museums and galleries in London. London proved to be the most vibrant city to study the art of the last century. This was enriched by a trip to Paris with our Professor, which allowed us to witness with our own eyes many of the iconic places we read about in class.

However, my experience at The Courtauld was definitely not just academic. As Officer for Activities of the Students' Union, I took part in organising exciting events such as the ball and the weekly talks and tours in collaboration with The Courtauld's students' societies. I also attended numerous gallery openings and art fairs with fellow students, often thanks to The Courtauld's huge reputation in the London art scene.

I am thankful to The Courtauld for having opened many doors for me, which will undoubtedly play a role in my future.



**“ Alongside colleagues from The Courtauld, I was invited to participate in an academic symposium at the University of Cambridge, presenting new research. ”**

## Nadine

As an international student, studying History of Art at The Courtauld has been an incredible experience. Having studied in Egypt and in the UK, I found the rigorous research-led training that this Courtauld MA provides to be unparalleled. Learning through objects and works of art and being able to think through them and build research around them has completely changed the way that I think about art.

I found the MA History of Art programme to be much more intense than I anticipated, in the best possible way. I studied with Professor Sussan Babaie, focusing on the early modern period of the Persianate world. This was especially challenging for me, having had no prior familiarity with the subject. A significant aspect of the teaching format is the close supervision and guidance for assessed coursework that proves invaluable. I was lucky to have an amazing group of colleagues, and, led by Professor Babaie, throughout

the academic year we met for seminars, visits to museums, galleries, and auction houses to engage with the material we were studying beyond our coursework.

Being at The Courtauld offers so many opportunities and experiences. Throughout the year, I enjoyed attending events at The Research Forum, The Business of Art Society and life drawing sessions organised by the Courtauld Fine Art Society. I devised and delivered talks at The Courtauld Gallery for summer courses and The Research Forum events, where I was able to share aspects of my research with a diverse range of audiences. I also had the opportunity to teach an introduction to Islamic art for Art History Link-Up's course for young students from state schools.

Overall, my experience studying at The Courtauld in London exceeded my expectations.

# Academic resources



## The Courtauld Library

Students have access to a significant collection of 200,000 books, exhibition catalogues and journals focused on Art History and related subjects. The library also subscribes to millions of digitally published articles, e-books, image banks, and scholarly e-journals.

Librarians working at The Courtauld Library are available to help you find articles, chapters, paintings, photographs, drawings, manuscripts, material culture, and anything else that you are researching. They can guide you around citing and referencing your sources, and share tips on evaluating the quality of your research.

## Academic resources and support Senate House and King's College London

As a member of the University of London, you also have access to the prestigious Senate House Library, which offers study spaces, online resources, and books in addition to those which are freely accessible to you at Vernon Square.

King's College London offers additional resources and places to study including the Maughan Library, which supports the teaching and research interests of Humanities, Law and Science.

Each of the King's campus libraries are open to Courtauld students, as well as the King's Online Library which gives you access to thousands of documentaries, films, and radio programmes.



## Digital resources

You will be able to access the required readings for each of your courses online through the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). The library provides links to e-books, scholarly journals online, and scans of chapters from print books to help you prepare for each lecture and seminar. We have a range of subscriptions to journals and societies that publish articles on the history of art and architecture, conservation, and curation.

## Writing tutors

The Royal Literary Fund Fellows are professional writers who offer one-to-one sessions where you can discuss all aspects of your writing, such as structuring an argument, making the essay clearer and improving style. The Fellows use their expertise in language and communication to help students develop their own

voice and writing skills. Writing tutors are available for individual appointments.

Developing your academic skills Enhance your coursework through our Academic Literacies module, which is available to first year students to ensure that your academic skills are developed alongside your subject expertise. The Academic Skills Tutor provides study skills support to students studying at The Courtauld. Support is provided in group and one-to-one formats, and is tailored to the specific needs of students, depending on the programme of study and the study skills that require development. This support enables students to develop and realise their academic potential. Core study skills classes are also provided as part of the taught provision on most courses.

## Specialist SpLD, neurodiverse and disability support

If you have, or suspect you might have Specific Learning Differences (SpLDs such as dyslexia/ADHD etc), a neurodiverse condition or have a mental or physical health disability, our Wellbeing Service can work with you throughout your studies to help arrange specialist support such as Specialist Study Skills Tutoring, Mental Health Mentoring or, Assistive Technology. They can also help you apply for the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) where eligible, arrange reasonable adjustments for exams and assessments, and can support with other general wellbeing matters.

# Health and wellbeing



## Wellbeing service

Student wellbeing is a key priority with our team of Counsellors and Wellbeing Advisors being the first point of call for students experiencing any non-academic issue which might affect their studies. We provide a safe, confidential and non-judgmental space to support students with a range of wellbeing needs, whether it be personal, mental or physical health, financial or welfare.

## Wellbeing Advisor

Our Wellbeing Advisors are available to meet with you to discuss anything you feel you need support with, and can work with you to help get that support in place. They can arrange for reasonable adjustments to be put in place for those with additional learning needs such as Specific Learning Differences (SpLDs), neurodivergent conditions, or other mental or physical health conditions. These adjustments might include extra time in assessments and exams, access to specialist equipment and assistive software, library assistance in the form of extended book loans, assistance to locate and/or collect research materials,

or access to course materials in alternative formats.

Our Wellbeing Advisors can also help with the application process for Disabled Students Allowance (DSA) for eligible students, which may include funding for specialist study skills tutoring or Mental Health Mentoring, and any other DSA funded support.

## Counselling support

Our team of Counsellors are fully qualified and professionally registered, and can offer up to six sessions of counselling per academic year. They are familiar with a range of struggles faced by many students, including: depression, low mood, anxiety, exam stress, feelings of isolation, bereavement, suicidal thoughts and many more. They can offer sessions either in-person or online.

## General medical support

It is important that students are registered with an NHS doctor in London to ensure that they have access to medical services when needed. The Gower Street practice, located a short walk from Vernon Square, offers a full range of medical services.

# Careers

## Career prospects

The Courtauld's graduates fill prestigious positions around the world as:

- Heads of major museums and galleries
- Curators
- Conservators
- Art dealers and Auctioneers
- Lawyers
- Entrepreneurs
- Publishers
- Media professionals
- Academics
- Teachers
- Banking and finance professionals
- Business professionals
- Marketing and communications professionals

## Individual careers support

All students can access bespoke, one-to-one careers guidance throughout their studies. The Courtauld Careers Service offers advice and support on exploring career and further study options, finding internships, enhancing employability, understanding and navigating the jobs and self-employment market, and making successful applications. The Careers Consultants also offer a tailored interview practice service, with detailed feedback, enabling students to prepare effectively for interviews.

## The Courtauld Institute Careers Programme

The Courtauld Institute Careers Programme is a comprehensive careers education programme designed to help students to explore their career options, receive practical tips from and network with alumni and employers, and develop their employability skills.

The programme consists of a wide variety of events, including:

- Panel sessions with alumni in range of careers
- Talks by recruitment and careers professionals
- Employability skills workshops on a range of topics, including career management, interview techniques and networking
- Events with leading employers and heritage sector experts

All students are encouraged to attend the events which benefit them most. Those who demonstrate commitment to their personal and professional development by either attending five one-to-one careers guidance appointments/ five careers events or through a combination of one-to-one sessions and careers events are invited to an exclusive alumni networking event.

This gives them the opportunity to meet a wide range of alumni

and build valuable professional contacts. Each year, students are able to secure work opportunities through attending this event. Other events offered outside of the programme include workshops with employers or sector leaders.

The event programme is complemented by a wide range of online resources, from 'How to write a CV' to a 'Guide to Heritage Careers', and one-to-one support from specialist Careers Consultants.

## Work experience

The Courtauld offers a range of opportunities for students to take on paid roles or take part in voluntary activities to gain valuable work experience. The Research Forum offers flexible, paid work for students as Student Event Assistants. These roles allow students to work across departments and gain a sense of deeper community during their studies. The Courtauld Public Programmes department runs a Learning Ambassador scheme that offers a mixture of paid and voluntary opportunities. Other paid roles include assisting in the Prints and Drawings Study Room and providing general services in the libraries. In addition, a carefully selected listing from the University



of London's jobs board is posted online each week which offers a range of vacancies across various industries. The Careers Service provides support and guidance in finding and applying for work experience opportunities, using all or any of these and other sources.

Many students work part-time outside of the Courtauld to gain valuable work experience and supplement their income. They may also embark on full-time internships during holiday periods. Some find jobs in galleries, museums, auction houses and other arts institutions to complement their studies, while others gain internships to explore sectors outside of the arts.

# Alumni

## The Courtauld is small but mighty – and our alumni are testament to that.

Our community spans 83 countries across the world, forming an international powerhouse that influences the arts and creative sectors on a global scale. Many of the world's major museums and galleries are led by Courtauld graduates, and our alumni also go on to become pioneers in a wide range of sectors – including technology, law, finance, journalism, marketing and politics. Whether working in or outside the arts, our alumni use skills learned at The Courtauld to analyse, challenge and influence the world around them.

## Staying connected

After graduating, students automatically join our vibrant and highly active alumni community and receive regular communications through our monthly alumni e-newsletter, annual Courtauld News publication and through our social media.



Alumnus Jeremy Epstein (MA 2009) giving a lecture at The Courtauld's annual Frieze Bubbly Breakfast event, 2019.  
Photo: © Jim Winslet

## Events

We host a range of alumni events in the UK and globally. These events are attended by alumni of all ages and range in scale from our popular Summer Party to more intimate curatorial tours and exclusive lectures.

## Careers support

The Courtauld offers a careers and professional support service for alumni for up to two years after graduating, as well as the opportunity to book one-to-one meetings and interview practice sessions with The Courtauld's Careers Consultant. All alumni, at any career level, are welcome to attend The Courtauld Institute Careers Programme (CICP) for students, which provides a range of webinars, panel discussions, skills workshops, and professional networking opportunities.



Images © Katrina Duffey

# Alumni stories



**Marv Recinto  
(MA History of Art 2018)**

Marv Recinto is Managing Editor of the magazines ArtReview and ArtReview Asia, as well as the academic journal ARTMargins (MIT Press). She has lectured and published extensively, including editing a forthcoming monograph on the artist Pio Abad. The Courtauld encouraged her to explore and foster her interest in non-Western contemporary art, which continues to inform her work today.

**Mona Yapova  
(Graduate Diploma in History  
of Art 2020)**

Mona Yapova is a lawyer specialising in art and cultural heritage law. She advises artists, collectors, galleries, museums, government entities, auction houses, art advisors, and tech companies on a variety of market and heritage-related issues. This ranges from acquisitions, large-scale artist commissions and exhibitions to complex regulatory issues involving cultural heritage protection frameworks and high-profile IP, authenticity, and ownership disputes.



**Chiedza Mhondoro  
(MA History of Art 2021)**

Chiedza Mhondoro is Assistant Curator of British Art at Tate Britain. She previously held curatorial roles at Somerset House and Southbank Centre. She also worked in arts education and public programming at a range of institutions including The Peggy Guggenheim Collection and Camden Arts Centre.

**Jamie Roston  
(MA History of Art 2017)**

Jamie Roston is Account Director at M&C Saatchi London. He has enjoyed a successful career in the advertising world and has been at M&C Saatchi since 2018, working with high profile clients such as Royal Mail and Coca Cola.

# The Students' Union

## A note from the President of the Students' Union

On behalf of The Courtauld Students' Union, I'd like to thank you for considering studying at The Courtauld. The student experience here is truly unique, and I am excited to be able to share it with you. Our small size enables the student body to come together as a vibrant and diverse community, whilst our strategic relationship with King's College London allows our students to experience the bustle of a London-based university.

The Students' Union advocates on behalf of students in all matters including academia, welfare support and the student experience. We also work to provide students with exciting and relevant opportunities throughout the year. As a student at The Courtauld, you can expect to have a stimulating array of social and wellbeing events available. We often receive tips from employers about internships and work opportunities and maintain a close relationship with our Alumni network. We have a passionate group of student-led societies which include our Business of Art Society, Art Law Society, Feminist Society, Film Society, and The

Courtauldian – our incredible student-run publication. Another great thing about The Courtauld is that you can join societies and student-led groups or participate in competitive sports through our King's College London relationship or via the University of London network.

Aside from social and academic life, looking after the welfare of our students is one of the SU's most important jobs. The Courtauld and the Students' Union offer valuable wellbeing support and student-led initiatives. These stretch from before students have enrolled, through the SU enabled 'Peer-to-Peer programme', to the Alumni-Mentoring Programme. I hope that this has given you a good idea of student life at The Courtauld.

To find out more about The Courtauld's SU, visit our website and Instagram page where you can find all the latest information on our events, campaigns, and more: [courtauld.ac.uk/students-union](http://courtauld.ac.uk/students-union) and [@courtauld\\_su](https://www.instagram.com/courtauld_su) Alternatively, we can always be reached at: **students.union@courtauld.ac.uk**

Prune Engérant (she/her)  
**President of The Courtauld Students' Union**

## The Students' Union

The Students' Union is a student-run representative group. Our role is to advocate for students, to make everyone feel welcome and included, and to ensure the happiness of all students at The Courtauld. We do this by representing the students' needs to the staff and to the outside world. Every year, there are lots of great opportunities to get involved, and we elect a President, a Vice President, five Executive Officers, a representative from each year group, as well as officers from our LGBTQIA+, Disabled, International, and Global Majority communities. As well as campaigning on their behalf, the Students' Union holds social events for Courtauld students. The Union Committee organises events such as Welcome Week, the Winter Party and the Summer Ball, but many of our events come from students themselves. Our Union is unique in only asking for as few as five students to form a society for it to be eligible for Union funding.

## The Courtauldian

The Courtauldian is the student-run publication of The Courtauld Institute of Art. The Courtauldian was founded in 2012 and attracts contributions from alumni, staff, and students at all levels of study from BA1 to PhD.

With magazines published termly, and online content published continually, the publication features articles, reviews, interviews, creative writing, and columns covering subjects from art and design to current affairs, politics, student news and more.

To view the latest publication, visit **[courtauldian.com](http://courtauldian.com)** or **[@thecourtauldian](https://www.instagram.com/thecourtauldian)** on Instagram.



# Research Forum

**The Research Forum delivers an extensive programme of lectures, conferences, workshops, artist talks, seminars, gallery lates and online and digital publications supporting advanced inquiry into the History of Art, Conservation and Curating.**

Hosting around 150 events per year, the varied programme of events looks to different periods and themes in art, visual culture and its history.

The programme provides students with insight into topics that expand and go beyond main areas of study, and students are encouraged to engage, debate and question during the events. Attending events provides students with extra opportunities for enhanced learning, and it can also help contextualise content taught in class.

In addition to providing additional learning opportunities for students, through free events and paid work experience, the Research Forum embraces a wide and diverse audience. The programme touches on pertinent issues – magnifying contemporary thinking in society through the field of art history. The Research Forum also hosts Decolonising Action Groups, open to everyone in The Courtauld Community, intended to enable learning, debate, and reflection as a community.

The Research Forum facilitates The Courtauld's research clusters. Like the majority of events, activities organised by these advanced working research groups are open to all students.

→ Event details and recordings are posted online - follow on social media [@CourtauldRes](#) or visit [www.instagram.com/courtauldres](https://www.instagram.com/courtauldres)



# The Courtauld Collection



As a student at The Courtauld, you will have unrivalled access to The Courtauld Gallery which is home to one of the greatest art collections in the UK.

The Gallery, based in historic Somerset House, is most famous for its collection of Impressionist and Post-impressionist works - including masterpieces such as Van Gogh's *Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear*, Manet's *A Bar at the Folies-Bergère* and the most significant collection of works by Cézanne in the UK.

The collection has remarkable works ranging from the Medieval and Renaissance periods to the present day, including an internationally renowned collection of prints and drawings, and an important holding of decorative arts.

The permanent collection sits alongside an exciting programme of temporary exhibitions which showcase works by internationally renowned artists in focussed exhibitions. Recent exhibitions have included *Van Gogh: Self-Portraits*, *Edvard Munch:*

*Masterpieces from Bergen*, *Peter Doig*, *Claudette Johnson: Presence*, *Frank Auerbach: The Charcoal Heads* and *Monet and London: Views of the Thames*.

The Gallery reopened in November 2021 following a three-year major transformation project, and highlights include the spectacular LVMH Great Room, which once hosted the Royal Academy of Arts' famous summer exhibitions, and has been restored to its original proportions to provide a new home for our world-famous collection of Impressionist and Post Impressionist paintings.

Other highlights at The Courtauld Gallery include internationally famous works from the



Édouard Manet (1832 - 1883), *A Bar at the Folies-Bergère*, detail (1882), The Courtauld, London (Samuel Courtauld Trust) © The Courtauld

Renaissance to the 18th century on display in the spectacular Blavatnik Fine Rooms, and galleries devoted to the Medieval and Early Renaissance collection, 20th century art, and the work of the Bloomsbury Group.

## Digital collections

The Courtauld's publicly accessible digital collections include works from the Courtauld Gallery, and our photographic collections.

## The Courtauld Gallery

The Courtauld Gallery's collection, which comprises over 33,000 objects ranging from the Middle Ages to the 21st century and includes paintings, drawings, ceramics and sculptures, among others, is available to explore in its entirety online for free for the first time thanks to a new digital platform.

To find out more, visit [gallerycollections.courtauld.ac.uk/](http://gallerycollections.courtauld.ac.uk/)

## The Witt and Conway photographic collections

The Witt is a collection of over two million photographs and

reproductions of Western paintings, drawings, and engravings from c.1200 to the present day. The Conway holds a collection of just under one million photographs of world architecture, architectural drawings, sculpture, and manuscripts. In support of our ambition to open The Courtauld to the world, we are currently digitising and publishing these collections alongside other smaller significant photographic resources.

Images from the Conway have been sorted, digitised and catalogued by an onsite team of over two thousand volunteers working alongside a global online community of nearly thirteen thousand volunteer transcribers. The Witt is currently being digitised. The British and French schools are now available online and other countries are being added in the coming months. The collection should all be available online by mid 2025.

The photographic collections are available online here: [photocollections.courtauld.ac.uk/](http://photocollections.courtauld.ac.uk/)

# Accommodation

## Intercollegiate Halls

Managed by the University of London, The Courtauld is allocated rooms in Intercollegiate Halls which are located within walking distance of Vernon Square and Somerset House. Rooms offered are a combination of en-suite and shared facilities in both catered and non-catered halls. Students who live in Intercollegiate Halls are housed with students from other University of London colleges, which is a great way to meet a diverse community of students studying a wide range of subjects. For the academic year 24/25, Courtauld students are living in College Hall, Connaught Hall, Garden Halls, International Hall and Nutford House. For further information about these Halls see [london.ac.uk/halls](https://london.ac.uk/halls)

## Duchy House

Managed by The Courtauld, Duchy House is located approximately 100 metres from Somerset House, on the corner of the Strand and Lancaster Place. The accommodation is approximately 25-30 minutes' walk to Vernon Square. Arranged across four floors, Duchy House offers 63 single occupancy self-catered rooms ranging from large double ensuite rooms to small single rooms with shared shower rooms. For further details about Duchy House see [courtauld.ac.uk/study/accommodation/duchy-house/](https://courtauld.ac.uk/study/accommodation/duchy-house/)

## General information

Allocation of a room in halls is primarily based on several factors including (but not limited to), whether you have a particular disability or medical requirement that would mean not having accommodation in Halls would put you at more of a disadvantage than a student not presenting these needs; the distance of your family home (not current place of study) from central London; whether you have previously studied in the UK. Students currently living within 60 minutes commuting distance of central

London are less likely to secure accommodation, although some have secured accommodation in previous years and thus, if you are within this commutable distance you are encouraged to apply.

Other rooms outside these Halls are available by applying direct to the University of London, see **Direct Bookings** for further details. In addition, **University of London's Housing Services** offers a range of services to assist and support students who are looking for and living in private accommodation in London.



# Contact us

[www.courtauld.ac.uk](http://www.courtauld.ac.uk)

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Front cover: Paul Cézanne (1839 - 1906),  
*Lac d'Annecy (Lake Annecy)*, 1896.  
The Courtauld, London (Samuel Courtauld  
Trust). Photo © The Courtauld



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