

Bachelor of Arts HES-SO in Conservation, 180 ECTS, 2026-2029

All courses are evaluated on a regular basis (written or oral examinations, written documentations, exercises and laboratories, presence).
 conservation-restauration@he-arc.ch, +41 (0)32 930 19 19

							ECTS pro Semester					
							180					
							24	36	24	36	33	30
							S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6
Module	SWH ¹ Coef unit	Module / Unit titel	Courses description	Teacher	Course hours ²							
AC1	180	Conservation 1			84	6						
AC1.1	0.4	Managing collections and their environment 1	Physics of buildings Environmental basics: Relative Humidity, Temperature. Measurements and tools	TJA	12							
			Principles of preventive conservation. Interaction of objects with their environment.	NDU	16							
			Processus, documentation and terminology in CR	RJE	4							
				ACU	2							
AC1.2	0.4	Visual documentation 1	Computer tools	TJA	8							
			Photography - studio and on site, and computer graphics 1	VBD	20							
			Introduction to microscopy for conservators	AME	12							
AC1.3	0.2	Introduction to materials used for artifacts 1	Ceramic, glass 1 - material, technology and degradation processes	CMA	10							
AH1	180	Humanities 1			85	6						
AH1.1	0.4	Objects and Societies 1	Antiquity	HDE	14							
			From the "big bang" to our days, geographical survey, Paleolithic, neolithic, protohistory	Jammet	19							
AH1.2	0.3	Written documentation and methodology 1	Method of documentation, assessment of the conditions of conservation, establishment of a repository and choice of indicator	NDU	28							
AH1.3	0.3	Objects, heritage and museums 1	Ethnographic object and Society	CCR	12							
			Technological objects and history 1	JBO	12							
AN1	180	Natural sciences 1			86	6						
AN1.1	0.4	Basics in Chemistry 1	Composition and binding in materials ; Stoichiometry Thermodynamic and kinetic of chemical reactions ; Chemical equilibrium	ADO	36							
AN1.2	0.3	Basics in Physics 1	Applied physics to conservation 1	SLC	24							
AN1.3	0.1	Introduction to properties of materials 1	Inorganic material	ADO	12							
AN1.4	0.2	Health and safety 1	Occupational health and safety prevention: legal bases and statistics, chemical, physical, biological, mechanical and fall hazards, ergonomics, personal protective equipment, prevention methods.	Gerber	10							
			Introduction to Basic Life Support and First aid (two separate groups, each for 4 hours)	Domaine SAN	4							
AN1.5	sans éval.		Basics in Maths : support course open to every CR students (organized if questions are asked)	ADO	8							
AW1	180	Conservation workshop 1			172	6						
AW1.1	0.3	Collections conservation survey and monitoring 1	Monitoring and monitoring tools, data capture with Excel.	TJA	44							
AW1.2	0.5	Ceramic	Project management : examination, diagnostic, propositions, documentation Cleaning Adhesives and coating Labelling Visits : handworkers, workshops, museum collections, laboratories	CMA	70							
AW1.3	pass/fail	Moulds and copies		Hug	36							
AW1.4	0.2	Basic tools and documentation in CR	Basic tools in CR (two separate groups, each for 8 hours)	Lefebvre	8							
			Computer tools for collections management system and CR-documentation 1	VBD	14							

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AC2	180	Conservation 2			80		6					
AC2.1	0.2	Managing collections and their environment 2	Environmental basics: light and pollutants. Measurements and tools	TJA	16							
AC2.2	0.2	Visual documentation 2	Drawing : vector drawing and image processing 1	RJE	20							
AC2.3	0.6	Introduction to materials used for artifacts 2	Vegetal, animal and composite materials - materials, technology and degradation processes	Goron	20							
			Paleoecology. Introduction to geology.	AME	12							
			Polymers and resins 1 - material and degradation processes	ADO	8							
			Mosaics 1 - material and degradation processes	Terrapon	4							
AH2	180	Humanities 2			67		6					
AH2.1	0.2	Objects and Societies 2	Early Middle Ages, Late Middle Ages	Laurenti	15							
AH2.2	0.4	History, ethics and theory of conservation	Method of documentation, assessment of the conditions of conservation, establishment of a repository and choice of indicator	NDU	28							
AH2.3	0.4	Objects, heritage and museums 2	Ethnographic object and Society	Bodenmann	12							
			Technological objects and history 2	JBO	12							
AN2	180	Natural sciences 2			72		6					
AN2.1	0.5	Basics in Chemistry 2	Acids and bases; redox reactions, oxydation and reduction, electrochemistry.	ADO	36							
AN2.2	0.3	Basics in Physics 2	Applied physics to conservation 2	SLC	24							
AN2.3	0.2	Introduction to properties of materials 2	Organic materials	ADO	12							
AW3	180	Conservation workshop 3			148		6					
AW3.1	0.6	Collections conservation survey and monitoring 2	Climate studies. Collections conservation assessment. Long term storage materials. Handling and transportation.	TJA	80							
			Object labelling or marking. Inventory number	Lefebvre	4							
AW3.2	0.3	Packing 1 : Conservation storage materials and	Packing system, material working (synthetic	Boulangé	48							
AW3.3	0.1	Materials identification tests	Oddy test and material identification tests.	ADO	16							
AW2	180	Conservation workshop 2 - external					6					
AW2		Preventive conservation for heritage collections 1. Traineeship.	Collections conservation assessment. Handling, transportation, storage, packing	TJA	4.5 weeks							
AW4	180	Conservation workshop 4 - external					6					
AW4		Preventive conservation for heritage collections 2. Traineeship.	Collections conservation assessment. Handling, transportation, storage, packing	TJA	4.5 weeks							

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BC1	180	Conservation 3			86			6						
BC1.1	0.6	Managing the collection and its environment 1	Compatibility of storage and exhibition materials	ADO	12									
			Origin and sensitiveness (interactions)	NDU	8									
			Photography - studio and on site, and computer graphics 2	VBD	16									
			Cultural values, authenticity and conservation principles	RJE	12									
BC1.2	0.2	Technology of artifacts 1	Identification of traces of manufacturing and use	TSC	4									
			Metal and alloys 1 - materials and technology	VBO	8									
			Metal and alloys 2 - structure and degradation processes	VBO	8									
BC1.3	0.2	Introduction to degradation processes 1	Architecture, stone, mortar, wall paintings 2 - Materials, technology and degradation processes	Guyot	12									
			Polymers (artificial and synthetic materials) - Materials and degradation processes	Ramel	6									
BH1	180	Humanities 3			56			6						
BH1.1	0.3	Objects and Societies 3	Renaissance, 17th	Laurenti	18									
BH1.2	0.3	Written documentation and methodology 2	Terms and language of conservation (8h). Aims, documentation forms, permanence of information (6h).	GRA	14									
BH1.3	0.4	Objects, heritage and museums 3	Heritage objects : the Ethnologist point of view	CCR	12									
			Scientific and technological heritage in History	JBO	12									
BN1	180	Natural sciences 3			66			6						
BN1.1	0.4	Chemistry for conservation 1	Organic chemistry; Organic Nomenclature	ADO	24									
			Laboratory techniques: weighting and laboratory	ADO	4									
BN1.2	0.4	Basics in Biology 1	The living : plant and animal cells, protozootes,	AME	24									
BN1.3	0.2	Introduction to instrumental analysis	Photo, UV, NIR, X-Ray, Radiography, IR-	Passaretti	12									
BN1.4	pass/fail	Health and safety 2	Introduction to Basic Life Support and First aid (Reminder) - two groups, each gorup 2 hours	Domaine SAN	2									
BW1	180	Conservation workshop 5			190			6						
BW1.1	0.3	Composites : dismantling 1	Dismantling and reassembling methods	TSC	64									
BW1.2	0.5	Basics in wood and metal working	Basics in woodworking	Grall Burst	40									
			Material working, wood working, metal working, mounting, boxes, packing, working with synthetic polymers	GRA	56									
BW1.3	0.1	Documentation	Collections management systems and documentation in CR (advanced)	VBD	14									
BW1.4	0.1	Polymers: artificial and synthetic materials - identification and condition assessment		Ramel	16									

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S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6										
BC2	180	Conservation 4			71				6						
BC2.1	0.2	Visual documentation 3	Photography - studio and on site, and computer graphics 3	VBD	12										
BC2.2	0.6	Technology of artifacts 2	Sculpture and painting - Materials, technology and degradation processes	ANG	20										
			Paper, Photography - materials, technology and degradation processes	HKB à déf	8										
			Textiles 1 - materials and degradation processes	Vogt	8										
			Textiles 2 - technology	Schorta	4										
			Pigments and dyes	EJO	3										
BC2.3	0.2	Introduction to degradation processes 2	Collection assesment : Storage plans and management, calcul of space and volume	TJA	12										
BC2.4	pass/fail	Introduction to research methods		LBR	4										
BH2	180	Humanities 4			76				6						
BH2.1	0.4	Objects and Societies 4	18th Century, 19th Century and 20th Century	HDE	18										
			20th and 21st Centuries	Bodenmann	10										
BH2.2	0.3	Legal aspects, business and work management in conservation	Business and work management in conservation ; Organisation and legal forms of a company; Taxes, financing, administration, contracts, accounting	Lefebvre	16										
			Legal aspects	Fischer	8										
BH2.3	0.3	Objects, heritage and museums 4	Ethnographic objects in museums	Bodenmann	12										
			Scientific and technological Heritage in Museography	JBO	12										
BN2	180	Natural sciences 4			76				6						
BN2.1	0.5	Chemistry for conservation 2	Atomic and molecular orbitals; Hybridization;	ADO	36										
			Linseed oil polymerisation workshop & FTIR analysis	Passaretti	4										
BN2.2	0.3	Basics in Biology 2	Interpretation of cultures, preparation and	AME	12										
			Identification of micro-organisms	EJO	12										
BN2.3	0.2	Basic concepts of scientific analysis	An elementary approach to analytical techniques that are used to study the variety of materials and phenomena in the conservation of art objects.	Passaretti	12										
BW3	180	Conservation workshop 7			210				6						
BW3.1	0.4	Metal and wood working applied to objects mounting.	Introduction to wood-turning. Coloring and painting. Conception of objects mounting and application.	TSC	82										
BW3.2	0.3	Packing 2 : Conservation systems for transport	Packing for storage and transport. Introduction to shock tests.	Boulangé	60										
BW3.3	0.2	Collections conservation survey and monitoring 3	Collection assesment. Storage plans and management. Showcases conception project	TJA	36										
BW3.4	0.1	Colour and retouching	Colour and retouching	ANG	32										
BW2	180	Conservation workshop 6 - external							6						
BW2		Preventive conservation for heritage collections 3. Traineeship.	Climate control, storage and display conditions, packing and transportation. Survey, assessment and management. Evaluation of storage and display conditions.	VBO	4.5 weeks										
BW4	180	Conservation workshop 8 - external							6						
BW4		Preventive conservation for heritage collections 4. Traineeship.	Climate control, storage and display conditions, packing and transportation. Survey, assessment and management. Evaluation of storage and display conditions.	VBO/TJA	4.5 weeks										

