

## PHOTOGRAPHIC PRESERVATION AND COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT

### CURRICULUM

#### Master of Arts

#### DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

|        |                                  | Credits |
|--------|----------------------------------|---------|
| PP8000 | Professional Practice Project    |         |
| PP8010 | Internship                       | 2       |
| PP8100 | History of Photography I         | 1       |
| PP8101 | History of Photog Materials      | 1       |
| PP8102 | Research Methods                 | 1       |
| PP8103 | Photographic Collections         | 1       |
| PP8104 | 19th Cent Photo Mater/Proc       | 1       |
| PP8105 | Chem of Photogr Deterioration    | 1       |
| PP8106 | 20th Cent Photo Materials & Proc | 1       |
| PP8107 | Digital Appl for Collectn Mgmt   | 1       |
| PP8108 | History of Photography II        | 1       |
| PP8109 | Photographic Preservation        | 1       |
| PP8110 | Cataloguing & Registrn Methods   | 1       |
| PP8111 | Exhibition and Publication       | 1       |
|        | One elective credit              | 1       |

#### ELECTIVES

|        |                          | Credits |
|--------|--------------------------|---------|
| PP8200 | 19th Cent Photo Pres     | 1       |
| PP8201 | 20th Cent Photo Pres     | 1       |
| PP8202 | New Media Photo Pres     | 1       |
| PP8203 | Albums & Books Phot Pres | 1       |
| PP8204 | Negatives Photo Pres     | 1       |
| PP8205 | France Workshop          | 1       |

**Note** that students in the second year of the program may choose to remain at Ryerson University for their courses or study at George Eastman House in Rochester. Students remaining in Toronto will have access to the collections and archives of the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Ryerson Image Centre, the Archives of Modern Conflict, and the Archives of Ontario.

### COURSE LISTING

#### **PP8000 Professional Practice Thesis/Project**

The thesis/project provides students with the opportunity to explore, in considerable detail, an issue or problem dealing with an aspect of photographic preservation or collection management, and whose resolution requires successful integration of theoretical, historical, and practical thinking. The project can be presented either as a written report or in another form (such as an interactive digital production), which would permit students to address and report on advanced work in non-traditional ways. Regardless of form, the project must be accompanied by a paper, which documents the work involved, situates it within the appropriate intellectual context, and indicates its contribution to the field. Pass/Fail

#### **PP8010 Internship**

While enrolled in the internship at Ryerson, under the direction of a Ryerson faculty supervisor, the student will participate in the current activities or long-term plans of an institution. The internship is normally a minimum of eight and a maximum of twelve consecutive weeks in length. Students are strongly encouraged to undertake their internship during their third term. Students will present the results of the internship in their fourth term. 2 Credits. Pass/Fail

#### **PP8100 History of Photography I**

This course provides a survey of the medium's history from early experiments to present. It provides an overview of photography's development and its impact on society as both a cultural and sociological phenomenon. It also familiarizes students with existing histories of photography, and addresses some of the problems of defining a visual history through photographic collections. Photographic theory is introduced to provide a critical context for discussion of these issues. 1 Credit

**PP8101 History of Photographic Materials**

Conceived as a parallel to History of Photography I, this course provides a technical and social history of photographic materials from 1839 to present. It describes various materials and techniques used in photography so that their composition, date of origin, and social context can be understood and used in defining approaches to photographic preservation. Laboratory sessions are used to provide students with the ability to identify and date major photographic processes and formats. 1 Credit

**PP8102 Research Methods**

This course complements material presented in previous courses and provides theoretical and methodological foundations for conducting graduate research in the history, preservation, and conservation of photographs. The course addresses research design, bibliographic construction, cataloguing and archival methods, content and process analysis, textual analysis, historiography, and documentary research. 1 Credit

**PP8103 Photographic Collections**

This course is concerned with photographic collections as specialized repositories of historical knowledge and cultural value. It identifies different types of public and private photographic collections as reflections of governmental, commercial, cultural, and societal needs, and describes their histories, purposes, intellectual organization, and physical management. The course includes the history of the preservation movement and explains the relationship of preservation to conservation both historically and today.

1 Credit

**PP8104 Photographic Materials and Processes: The Nineteenth Century**

This course provides detailed investigation of the history and practice of major nineteenth century photographic negative and positive processes, including photogenic drawings, calotypes, cased images (daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, and tintypes), wet-plate collodion negatives, and albumen prints through lectures, practical demonstrations, darkroom and studio experimentation, and relevant historical literature. 1 Credit

**PP8105 Chemistry of Photographic Deterioration**

In conjunction with two courses on nineteenth and twentieth centuries processes (5 and 6 above), and as an outgrowth of History of Photographic Materials (4 above), this course surveys environmental factors and underlying chemical mechanisms that cause both black and white and colour photographs to stain, fade, or otherwise deteriorate while in storage or on exhibition. Laboratory sessions are used to illustrate the effects of deterioration through exposure to heat, light, humidity, and pollutants. The course provides a fundamental basis for decisions concerning storage conditions, remedial measures, and long-term preservation planning.

1 Credit

**PP8106 Photographic Materials and Processes: The Twentieth Century**

This course provides detailed investigation of the history and practice of major twentieth century photographic negative and positive processes, including platinum prints, gum bichromate prints, gelatin silver negatives and prints, and colour negatives and prints through lectures, practical demonstrations, darkroom and studio experimentation, and relevant historical literature. 1 Credit

**PP8107 Digital Applications for Collection Management**

This course is closely allied to the Cataloguing and Registration Methods course (11 below), designed to provide students with specific digital technologies currently in use in most museums. Image capturing, database entry/management, and issues surrounding search engines are explored in detail. Through a series of hands-on assignments, students become familiar with computer hardware and software applications in the above-mentioned areas. 1 Credit

**PP8108 History of Photography II**

Using the collection of George Eastman House as its basis, this seminar provides the forum for students to investigate specific historical, cultural, or artistic issues arising out the history of photography. This course allows students to gain a greater understanding of history of the medium through detailed examination and interpretation of original materials. Issues of museum collecting and curating are also explored throughout the course. 1 Credit

**PP8109 Photographic Preservation**

This course provides an overview of the history of philosophy, ethics, concerns, and methods of preservation. It covers materials, tools, sources of supply, and methods of providing protection for photographs through proper mounting, housing, and stabilization procedures. It also covers the purposes and procedures for compiling standard condition reports, and conducting preservation surveys. Students will also be introduced to conservation procedures in order to facilitate their interaction with conservators and their practices. 1 Credit

**PP8110 Cataloguing and Registration Methods**

This course provides an overview of the purpose and function of collection registration and cataloguing. It includes an overview of the function of registration and cataloguing staff, developing cataloguing systems, role and usage of computer technology, collection management procedures, shipping and receiving, insurance and conditions reports. Digital applications are also discussed. 1 Credit

**PP8111 Exhibition and Publication of Photographs**

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of issues and policies related to the exhibition and publication of photographs. It covers preservation issues involved in preparing, installing, monitoring, and circulating photographic exhibitions, as well as copyright and reproduction issues. Digital applications and issues are also discussed. 1 Credit

**PP8200 Topics in Photographic Preservation: Nineteenth Century Materials**

Seminar devoted to an issue or aspect of the care and preservation of nineteenth century photographic materials. 1 Credit

**PP8201 Topics in Photographic Preservation: Twentieth Century Materials**

Seminar devoted to an issue or aspect of the care and preservation of twentieth century photographic materials. 1 Credit

**PP8202 Topics in Photographic Preservation: New Media**

Seminar devoted to an issue or aspect of the care and preservation of new photographic digital image materials. 1 Credit

**PP8203 Topics in Photographic Preservation: Photographic Albums and Books**

Seminar devoted to the history and structure of bound books, and their materials and technology (including the photograph album). Factors in deterioration, analysis of condition, need for intervention; treatment proposals, stabilization, and repair are covered. Methods of display, handling, and storage are also covered. 1 Credit

**PP8204 Topics in Photographic Preservation: Negatives**

Seminar devoted to an issue or aspect of the care and preservation of photographic negatives. 1 Credit

**PP8205 France Workshop**

Through 12 days of on-site lectures by, and consultations with, curators of the most distinguished photographic collections, archives, and conservation laboratories in Paris, the course provides students with special access to a broad range of French state and municipal photographic collections and preservation practices. Ryerson has developed strong working relationships with a number of the most important curators and conservationists in Paris including those at the Louvre, the Musée d'Orsay, the Bibliothèque Nationale, and the Musée Carnavalet among others. They allow students behind-the-scenes access to their collections, work spaces, and storage vaults that are unavailable to the general public. An extra fee of approximately CDN \$4,185 (subject to change) is levied for this course and the course will be offered subject to enrollment. 1 Credit