University of Bern
Institute of Art History

Master’s Program in Art History with special qualification in Monument Preservation and Monument Management

University of Bern
Institute of Art History
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Study plan and further information is available at:
ikg.unibe.ch
Architectural and artistic monuments are unique and irreplaceable historical objects. They are the material manifestations of craftsmanship and technical expertise from the past and are thus archives of information in the broadest sense of the word. They therefore hold great significance as objects that create identity on the regional, national and international level. Monument preservation is a part of the public service whose mission is to collect information on cultural heritage objects, assess and appraise them, and ensure that they are handled and managed properly. Because activities here also include research into the history of such objects, their significance in the present and their preservation for the future, monument preservation also plays an important role in the design of the environments we live in; that means it involves a certain amount of social responsibility as well.

**Courses**

- **From Building Inventory to Building Site I: Theoretical Basics and Working Methods of Cantonal Monument Preservation**  
  Dr. Richard Buser (architectural historian and author of “Kunstdenkmäler” in Canton Basel-Land)

- **From Building Inventory to Building Site II: Insight into Building Consultation and Building Documentation of the Cantonal Monument Preservation**  
  Tatiana Lori (monument conservator of the Canton of Bern)

- **Ethics and Methods in Monument Preservation**  
  Dr. Jean-Daniel Gross (monument conservator of the City of Bern)

- **Preservation of Historical Monuments in Switzerland. History and Structures**  
  Dr. phil. Nina Mekacher  
  (Federal Office of Culture, preservation of historical monuments and cultural heritage)

- **Management of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Monument Preservation and Marketing at the Klassik Stiftung Weimar**  
  Dr. Gert-Dieter Ulferts  
  (Klassik Stiftung Weimar)

- **Theory and History of Monument Preservation in the German-Speaking World**  
  Dr.-Ing. Eva Schäfer  
  (monument conservator of the Canton of Thurgau)

**Educational Targets**

- **To acquire basic theoretical and practical knowledge of the preservation of architectural and artistic monuments.** The qualification is offered through additional courses within the framework of the art history program.

- **To raise awareness of the social significance of the historical record and the contemporary conditions of conceptualizing monuments.**

- **To prepare students for the professional field of historic preservation and in the field of construction research and inventorisation of historical monuments.**

- **To gain insight into the activities of institutions through the completion of an obligatory internship (min. four weeks).**

- **To acquire contacts and establish a network amongst professionals working in monument preservation.**

**Graduation:**  
Master of Arts in Art History with a special qualification in Monument Preservation and Monument Management, University of Bern

**Offer:**  
Mono-Master 120 ECTS  
Full integration into your art history studies with no additional tuition fees

**Language of instruction:**  
German

**Start:**  
Fall or spring semester

**Prerequisite:**  
A university bachelor’s degree in Art History (Major 120 ECTS) or Minor (60 ECTS).
Concept

Prof. Dr. Bernd Nicolai
Institute of Art History, University of Bern,
Chair of Architectural History and Monument Preservation with external colleagues.

Further Information

The Master’s program in “Art History with special qualification in Monument Preservation and Monument Management” at the Institute of Art History at the University of Bern incorporates the field of monument preservation as a part of art history studies. The objective is to offer a study program that is both theoretically grounded and practice-oriented, and that leads to promising career opportunities in Switzerland and beyond. This unique program offers students the opportunity to combine the study of monument preservation in the “Monument Preservation and Monument Management” application area as a minor (30 credits) with a regular Art History major (90 credits) in the Master’s program. In this manner, monument preservation is not only addressed in its practical form, but also and especially within the context of its cultural and historical dimension and meaning.

Mostly external professionals, who are active in the field of the preservation, management, and research of monuments, teach the respective courses.

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Contact

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