

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle Master in Museology

Approved by Ministerial Order nº 955/2005. Amended by Ministerial Order nº 1914/2010, Diário da República 2nd series – nº 18 – 27 January 2010.

The Master in Museology, grants the following diplomas:

Specialization Diploma in Museology. It implies the frequency and conclusion of the first 2 semesters.

Diploma and Master's Degree in Museology. When the Master's dissertation is approved, under the terms defined by the regulation

Master in Museology		
	Hours	Ects
1st & 2nd Semester		
1. The Social Function of Museums	25(S)	10
2. Indepth Studies in Museology	25(S)	10
3. Museology and Contemporary Thought	5(TC); 20(S)	10
4. Museology, Heritage and Cultural Development	5(TC); 20(S)	10
5. Museography and Computing Laboratory	50(TC)	10
6. Internship/Placement	100(TC)	10
3rd & 4th Semester		
7. Research Methodologies in Museology	20 (TP)	10
8. Research Seminar in Museology	10 (S)	5
9. Dissertation in Museology/Advanced Project Work in Museology/Internship Report	30(OT)	45

### 1-The Social Function of Museums

The objective of this curricular unit is to analyze the theoretical-methodological framework of Contemporary Museology. The main reflection and practice areas of Museology will be addressed: their relationship with the social contexts where the production conditions of the different museological discourses are developed & their various intervention areas. The general context of the curricular unit will be presented & analyzed in detail. We will try to define the theoretical & practical context of the national & international Museology.

Memory and power: relationships of Museology with the memory contents; Memory as social cohesion element; Cultural patrimony and memory in museums; Museums: conflicts, memories and identity

Museum and Society: concepts and Interdisciplinary; The idea of museum; Ways of perceiving the Museum in the contemporary

Modernization of museal institutions: The cultural and patrimony institutions modernity; New forms of museal action; Innovative processes; The new and different functions of the modern museum

The place of the collections and patrimony in contemporary Museology

The present museum and the new Museology: Action and conscientization within a new paradigm; Cultural Identity and Democracy; Open and interactive system; Institutional looks and relationship with UNESCO: Santiago de Chile Declaration, Quebec Declaration, Oaxtepec Declaration, Caracas Declaration

## 2. In depth Studies in Museology

The understanding of Heritage depends on the problematization of large socio-cultural categories such as the concepts of identity, diversity, biodiversity, and multiculturalism.

In this sense, new heritage approaches have been treated by museology: new cultural heritage, intangible heritage, social memory in its diachronic and synchronic perspectives, as well as problems involving memories and forgetfulness, power and resistance.

The philosophy and underlying values of museological institutions inserted in their historical-political context. The vocation of museums in the past: artistic, scientific, social and cultural aspects.

It is also intended with this UC a theorization, reflection and problematization of the great contemporary issues of social museology:

From the contemplative museum to the active museum

New formats & scopes of museums

Perspectives on the local development: equity & difference

A Museology of the development: the roots of the concept & their operationalization

Museums and their direct impact on local communities

Museum as generator of financial flows and qualified employment

Synthesis of the effective and potential action of museums as development tools.

## 3. Museology and Contemporary Thought

Analyse the theoretical and methodological framework of Contemporary Museology.

To deal with the main areas of reflection and practice of Sociomuseology, namely: its relationship with social contexts, where it develops and the production conditions of the different museological discourses and its different areas of intervention.

The general context of the course will be presented and analysed in detail, seeking to situate the theoretical and practical context of national and international museology.

Prepare students by encouraging them to reflect, exercise a spirit of creativity and rigor for the museological exercise.

## 4. Museology, Heritage and Cultural Development

Issues, concepts and methodologies in the construction of the notion of patrimony. Social practices and collective memories; heritage in its dimensions: human, spatial and temporal. Heritage in the process of identity construction.

The relationship between temporality and territoriality in identity contexts: Cultural heritage in sociocultural contexts, interculturality, multiculturalism, cultural hybridization and the problem of transnationality and the Musealization of Heritage.

The role of Sociomuseology in the management of cultural and heritage assets.

Heritage and Museology as vectors of development.

Development models and policies: Dimensions of globalization; social organization versus territoriality; classic, modern and recent authors.

Reality and alternatives: what is really new? globalization "from below" and "from above".

## 5. Museography and Computation

### Laboratory

In the Museology and Computation Lab different subjects and technological resources are presented by guest speakers of each specific area. The coursework is based on practical exercises, building prototypes and study visits. The practical exercises are organized in a sequential way allowing a progression in the understanding of technical procedures necessary for designing interactive modules in an exhibition.

- To deal with the main areas of reflection and practice of Sociomuseology in its relationship with Expography, museographies and new information and communication technologies that can be adapted to the museological context.

- Reflection on the place of new technologies in a museological context. Technological rationality and museological discourse. The place of ICT in expography.

## 6. Internship/Placement

During their first year, all masters students undertake supervised work experience in a professional environment. The Museology Department ensures internships in a wide network of museums in Portugal with which has agreements and works in collaboration since 1991. It also has protocols with some museums in Brazil, in particular São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Salvador. Students can also develop a complex practical activity under the guidance of a Master's professor.

This curricular unit aims to establish the connection between the theoretical and the praxis in this cycle of study, consolidating notions and concepts worked in the context of class in the curricular units, allowing the exercise in the institutional context of the methodological application in the field of museology, consolidating notions and concepts that were worked on in classroom contexts in the curricular units.

1. Identify and characterize the main structuring vectors of the museologist's intervention in the institutions where the internship takes place. Identify specific themes and issues from different internship contexts.

2. Deepen conceptual tools and articulate the knowledge acquired throughout the UC.

3. Analyse and systematize the knowledge acquired in the internship, reflecting theory and methodology on the observed and lived experiences.

4. Investigate from the experience of the internship, in the construction of the problem, objectives and methodological strategy.

5. Select and train certain methods and techniques (observation, study, programming, execution and evaluation) that allow to plan the internship and approach the problems and contexts of intervention.

For the internship students can choose one of the museums with which the Department has protocols or develop a complex practical activity under the guidance of a master's professor. In cases where the master's students prove effective professional practice in Museums or similar institutions, the Scientific / Pedagogical Commission may authorize the dismissal of an internship.

## 7-Research Methodology in Museology

To present the main stages of scientific research in Museology;

To analyze the theoretical-methodological Framework of Contemporary Museology;

To problematize relevant distinctions between concepts & categories as tools of scientific research;

To clarify the role played theory, methodologies & research technique in the Museology field;

To hold recurrent discussions of the research experience, especially in the field of museums.

### Course contents

#### I. Research in Museology

1. The disciplinary statute of Museology and the place of research: the different perspectives of research applied to Museology

2. Research in Museology in international and national context: balance and perspectives of knowledge production in Museology

#### II. Research in Social Sciences: Theoretical-methodological issues and the research process

1. The Dynamics of the construction of knowledge in Social Sciences: a debate on the research strategies

2. Research strategies and research designs in Museology

3. Research methods and main techniques in Social Sciences – a reflective revision in order to design and apply to research in Museology by focusing on the research qualitative methodologies.

4. The museologic collections as research object: methods and procedures

## 8- Research Seminar in Museology

Research Seminar introduces students to the process of academic research and allow them a moment of reflection and sharing of the research undertaken through a presentation and debate of each thesis project.

Since this is a time of sharing and presentation of the research conducted for thesis and dissertations, the curriculum of this course is dependent on each student research route. In this sense, the choice of content and materials to be presented is made with each supervisor. Research Seminar support the students to conducted literature review relevant to each research topic, to deal with ethical approaches and present the research proposal orally in seminar. Students must develop a timeline for the proposed research and elaborate a Gantt and a Pert chart.

## 9.Dissertation in Museology/Advanced Project Work in Museology/Internship Report

The dissertation should guarantee the respect for the objectives treated in the Dublin Descriptors\* in relation to 2nd cycle -Master:

Qualifications that signify completion of the second cycle (Master) are awarded to students who:

### **Knowledge and understanding:**

Have demonstrated a systematic understanding of a field of study and mastery of the skills and methods of research associated with that field.

### **Applying knowledge and understanding:**

Capacity through problem solving abilities applied in new or unfamiliar environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts.

### **Making judgements:**

Demonstrates the ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity and formulate judgements with incomplete data.

**Communication**

Can communicate their conclusions and the underpinning knowledge and rationale (restricted scope) to specialist and non-specialist audiences (monologue) ..

**Learning skills**

Can be expected to be able to study in a manner that may be largely self-directed or autonomous.

**Research lines**

According with the chosen theme to develop their research, the students have the option to choose the following lines of research:

Sociomuseology, Heritage and Cultural Development

Sociomuseology, Human Rights and Globalization

Museology and Education

Museology and Computing

Museums and Service Sciences

Museums, Territory, Architecture and Design

The research lines are duly described and were defined according to the syllabi and they are coordinated by duly qualified lecturers. In justified situations and whenever the coordination quality is guaranteed, new lines may be created.

\*Bologna Working Group. (2005) *A Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area*. Bologna Working Group Report on Qualifications Frameworks (Copenhagen, Danish Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation). [Download](#)