

Programme change proposals

At York each degree programme has its own, tailored set of distinctive learning outcomes. These won't change, no matter what your location or mode of delivery, and our academics are working hard to ensure your programmes and modules next year continue to inspire and motivate you.

Your health and safety is our number one priority and in light of the Covid-19 pandemic we have needed to make changes to some of your programmes of study for the coming academic year. This document summarises the changes that are proposed.

Programme(s)	MA in Stained Glass Conservation and Heritage Management
	Standard Programme Specifications

Summary of Overall Plans

A distinctive and essential aspect of our programme is its combination of academic and practice-based learning, both in our own fully equipped conservation training studio (the Nicolas Barker Studio) in use throughout the programme, and through the external studio placement in the summer of the first year of study. The unrestricted availability of the Nicolas Barker Conservation Studio and its equipment for private study and practice is a highly prized amenity of the course. The placement not only allows skills and experience to be refined in an external work environment but also provides access to experience that cannot be replicated in the University context (notably site-based work). It also lays the foundations for student contact with professional peers. Additional networking opportunities arise through our masterclass events, which are open to the wider professional community, as well as to students of the University of York. Notwithstanding the constraints imposed by the continuing Covid-19 emergency, we remain committed to the delivery of this rich mix of experience, which has proven its effectiveness in preparing our graduates for successful careers in this specialist sector, both at home and abroad. You will experience a blended approach to learning, a mix of face-to-face online provision and in-person meetings in socially distanced spaces, designed to be sustainable despite uncertainties in the development of the Covid-19 pandemic and its potential impact on staff and students alike. All conventional lectures will be offered as online recordings only. This is to free up the lecture theatres for other forms of socially distanced teaching which wouldn't be possible in smaller spaces. The recorded lectures will allow you to watch them at your own pace.

In order to continue practice-based study in safety, measures have been taken to ensure social-distancing in the Nicolas Barker studio, with the provision of additional PPE (already a standard provision for safe working in stained glass) and implementation of a rota system to enable private study and workshop exercises to continue safely outside the timetabled programme. This will also mean that students will need to be on campus for the

Spring term at the latest, if not before. Sourcing safe placement opportunities with appropriate social-distancing and appropriate H&S support has been tested through the summer of 2020 and Covid-appropriate risk assessment will continue.

Programme Structures

All modules in our carefully balanced course structure will continue to run, with first-year skills modules moved from the Autumn term to the Spring and early Summer terms. Assessment modes are unaffected by these changes.

FOR RETURNING STUDENTS

In the Autumn Term your taught modules (*Art & Imagery of York Minster* and *Cultural Heritage Management I: Concepts, Principles and Practice*) will be delivered through a mixture of one-hour online activities that you can pursue at your own pace plus one-hour face-to-face online seminars <u>or</u> in-person seminar groups, organised to ensure safe social-distancing. Lectures will be recorded and available online. There will nonetheless be a strong preference for in-person groups, if Covid-19 circumstances make this possible. Through the adoption of additional special measures to ensure safety of students and staff, it is anticipated that it will also be possible for us to experience stained glass at close quarters in York Minster. For any student forced to self-isolate or unable to return to campus at the start of the academic year, online alternatives will be available.

The facilities of the Nicolas Barker Studio will continue to be available to you for independent working, although in order to observe appropriate social-distancing, access will be by appointment, and students will need to observe strict hygiene protocols (for which induction will be provided).

In the Spring Term all students will need to be back on campus in order to participate in the practice-based learning and autonomous project-based assessment of the *Advanced Techniques of Stained Glass Conservation* module, for which the equipment and facilities of the Nicolas Barker Studio are essential. This module will make extensive use of the workshop facilities and the teaching collection in a series of two-hour seminars, but each week the seminar group will be divided into a small 'demonstrator group' who will present from the studio, making use of the materials and collections relevant to each seminar topic, and a 'discussion group' who will participate individually from outside the studio. An online platform (Zoom) will bring the 2 groups face to face in real time and enable visiting lecturer Dr Ivo Rauch to join the seminar without the need to travel from Germany. Additional facilities (microscope camera and webcam) will maximise the screen-sharing potential of the online platform.

The complementary two-hour *Research Skills* workshops will be conducted in face-to-face online seminars.

In making your optional Spring module choice, you may wish to investigate the relevant department's teaching approaches first.

In the Summer Term students will begin dissertation research in earnest. Throughout the Spring term you will have been supported in developing your research topic in order to take into account prevailing Covid-19 circumstances as they relate to travel, access to archives and resources, and any other factor relevant to particular projects or individuals.

FOR INCOMING STUDENTS

To ensure the safety of both students and staff, the timetable of the programme's first year has been adjusted to move some of the practice-based elements which require closer contact for mentoring and instruction out of the Autumn Term, when it is envisaged that stricter self-isolating, social-distancing and travel restrictions may still apply and may affect students' capacity to be present full-time on campus. The taught modules *History and Theory of Stained Glass Conservation* and *Conservation Studies I: Philosophical Approaches to Conservation*, will be delivered each week through a mixture of one-hour online activities that you can pursue at your own pace, one-hour face-to-face online seminars or in-person seminar groups, organised to ensure safe social-distancing. There will be a strong preference for in-person groups, subject to Covid-19 circumstances. Through the adoption of additional special measures to ensure safety of students and staff, it will also be possible for us to experience stained glass at close quarters in York Minster. For any student forced to self-isolate or unable to be present in person on campus at the start of the academic year, online alternatives will be available.

In the Spring Term your taught modules, *Painting on Light* and *Conservation Studies II: Issues in Cultural Heritage Conservation*, will be delivered through a mixture of one-hour online activities that you can pursue at your own pace, one-hour face-to-face online seminars <u>or</u> in-person seminar groups, organised to ensure safe social-distancing. In addition, the skills module, *Basic Glass Handling* (part of module HOA00043M), will run in the Nicolas Barker studio in four intensive in-person sessions. You will also have access to the studio to practice and develop your skills, but in order to maintain social-distancing, you will be asked to book a studio slot and observe appropriate hygiene protocols (for which induction will be provided).

In weeks 1 to 5 of the Summer Term you will participate in the practice-based *Introduction to Stained Glass Conservation* (part of module HOA00043M), delivered through seven two-hour technical workshops in the Nicolas Barker Studio, with one site-based two-hour seminar. In between meetings you will have free access to the Nicolas Barker Studio, although in order to maintain safe social-distancing, you will be asked to book your studio slots and to observe appropriate hygiene protocols.

From week 6 of the summer term through to week 7 of the summer vacation you will participate in the 12-week *Studio Placement*.

Some option modules usually include local field trips or trips to places further afield. We will aim to maintain local field trips, where possible (with an online alternative).

Further changes or information of note

In addition to a range of bursaries secured to support home and EU students to cover the additional financial challenges of a two-year MA programme, for 2020-21 extra funding has been awarded by the Headley Trust to support students facing additional Covid-related problems.