

PGD/MA Museum Practice and Management

University of Ulster

Course Director Dr Elizabeth Crooke
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HOW THE COURSE IS ORGANISED

The PGD Museum Practice and Management is an online programme which is accessed through the University of Ulster website at www.campusone.ulster.ac.uk. The programme was first introduced in September 2006 and is built upon years of museums studies teaching at the University of Ulster as well as established distance learning provision.

Aim of programme	This programme shares best practice and expertise in various aspects of museum studies, cultural management, exhibition practice and care of collections. The modules draw upon the expectations of the museum standards programmes in UK and Ireland and provide points of discussion on key issues concerning the museum profession. Tutors are either lecturers in the University of Ulster or senior staff in the museum sector.
Student body	Most students on this programme have experience of the museum sector and are working in the area. Students get to know each other and share experiences through a discussion board linked to topics within each unit of a module.
Accessing course material	When enrolled you are provided, week by week over a period of 12 weeks, online access to lectures, readings, and discussion topics. Lectures and all required reading can be downloaded via the module area. Each lecture contains discussion topics to encourage dialogue between you, fellow students, and your module tutor.
Module Choice	You may choose to take one module as a stand alone course (30credits), 2 modules for a PG Cert (60 credits) and 4 modules for a PG Diploma (120 credits).
Assignments	Each module has approximately three assignments. Early assignments, which are usually shorter, are submitted during the module, with feedback within 3 weeks, and the final assignment is due a fortnight after the module is completed.
Attendance	This is an entirely online programme, with no requirement to attend the University of Ulster. However, there is an annual calendar of museum events in Ireland which many students attend and the tutors use as an opportunity to informally meet with students.
Fees	Fees are calculated per credit point and are paid in instalments. Please check the University of Ulster website to confirm fees for this coming semester: http://www.ulster.ac.uk/finance/fees/

COURSE CONTENT

<p>Museums and Culture: Policies and Values CUS 816c1x (30 credits)</p> <p>This module considers the meaning, purposes and impact of museums. It looks at the value of objects, histories of museums as well as issues in relation to governance, museum ethics, social policies and display. It draws on key debates in the museum sector both nationally and internationally and encourages students to reflect upon the potential of museums.</p>	<p>Management and Strategy for the Museum CUS 817c2x (30 credits)</p> <p>Issues of management, marketing, finance and strategic planning are core to this module. Module content explores key thinking and principles in these areas and applies them to the museum sector.</p>
<p>Communication and Learning in Museums CUS 818c1x (30 credits)</p> <p>The focus of this module is museum communication through exhibition development and learning policies. Units relating to exhibitions focus on the importance of display, writing museum text and evaluation. Lectures also reflect upon contemporary learning theories, how these might be applied in museums, and writing an education policy for a museum. Consideration is also given to engaging lifelong learners and employing new media in museums.</p>	<p>Collections Care and Management CUS 819c2x (30 credits)</p> <p>Collections are the basis on which most museum work is developed. This module considers how to make collection management a strategic part of a museum service. It considers the development of standards and accreditation, issues relating to acquisition and disposal of collections as well as documentation. Lectures relating to the care of collections consider preventive conservation; care of collections; storage; object handling; movement of collections; disaster planning; and the broader context of collections care.</p>

MA Research Module

On successful completion of 4 modules of the PGD (120 credits) you may continue to the research module (60 credits). This module is based on significant and high quality research undertaken by the student with guidance from tutors. Students must complete either a 10-15,000 word dissertation or a 6-8,000 word article suitable for a peer-reviewed journal. Support is provided by tutors at the University of Ulster in areas such as identifying a research topic, research methods, interpreting your research, presenting your work and establishing a potential output for your research findings.

COURSE TEAM

Course Director

Your Course Director is Dr Elizabeth Crooke, Senior Lecturer in Museum and Heritage Studies at the University of Ulster.

Elizabeth is active in the academic area of museum studies as well as working with museums and everyday museum practice. She has published *Museums and Community: Ideas, Issues and Challenges* which is part of the Museum Meanings Series with Routledge, a leading book series in museum studies as well as in many key edited books and journals in the subject area.

Have a look here:

http://www.routledge.com/books/series/museum_meanings_SE0349/

Elizabeth is closely involved in the museum sector in Ireland. For a number of years she was a member of Museums and Archives Committee of Heritage Council and she is currently a member of the Museum Standards Programme advisory committee of the Council and Judge of the Museum of the Year Awards.

Previously Elizabeth was Board Member Northern Ireland Museums Council 2006-2009 and curated *Passions and Possessions: Collecting Past and Present*, Fermanagh County Museum (2006).

Tutors

As well as academic staff at the University of Ulster with expertise in the module areas, you will have access to tutors who work within the museum sector. For instance, we work with Jane Williams, of National Museums Northern Ireland (NMNI), and Heather McGuicken, of Northern Ireland Museums Council (NIMC).

Jane is an Education Officer with NMNI and a member of the Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for Northern Ireland. A former editor of the Irish Museums Journal, her publications include work on oral histories, volunteering and citizenship in museums.

Part of Heather's responsibility for NIMC is administering the MLA Accreditation Scheme. She is also an Assessor for the Museum Standards Programme, Ireland.

MODULE ORDER 2010/11-2011/12

PGD Museum Practice and Management Module Order

Academic Year 2010-2011

Semester 1	Museums and Culture	Register mid- September Lectures begin late September
Semester 2	Management and Strategy for the Museum	Register mid-January Lectures begin late January

Academic Year 2011-2012

Semester 1	Communication and Learning	Register mid-September Lectures begin late September
Semester 2	Collections Care and Management	Register mid-January Lectures begin late January

On completion of PGD modules students have the opportunity to continue to MA level.

WOULD YOU LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION?

Course content and general enquiries	Application procedure and enrolment	School of English, History and Politics	Academic Fees
<p>Dr Elizabeth Crooke em.crooke@ulster.ac.uk</p> <p>028 7137 5431 or 028 7137 5277</p>	<p>Janetta Chambers j.chambers@ulster.ac.uk</p> <p>028 70323161</p>	<p>Prof Jan Jedrzejewski Head of School j.jedrzejewski@ulster.ac.uk</p> <p>Joanne Taggart School Secretary zj.taggart@ulster.ac.uk 028 70324474</p>	<p>Fees Office</p> <p>028 7032 4252</p>

Other enquiries: Telephone 028 7032 4474

HOW DO I APPLY?

Online application forms and guidance notes are available at:

<http://campusone.ulster.ac.uk/potential/postgraduate.php?ppid=21>

- If you are applying for September start date, apply by end of the previous July
- If you are applying for the January start date, apply by end of previous November
- *We will consider later applications, please apply online and inform the Course Director by email*

Campus One: <http://campusone.ulster.ac.uk/>

Apply online at: <http://campusone.ulster.ac.uk/potential/postgraduate.php?ppid=21>

Museum Standards Programme Ireland: <http://www.heritagecouncil.ie/mspi/>