Master’s Degree Program in Cultural Heritage & Preservation Studies
The Program in **Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies** (CHAPS) emphasizes the development of a broad understanding of heritage contexts and policies along with development of professional skills.

This program is a dynamic response to the escalating interest in cultural heritage preservation issues at the local, national, and global levels, and to the recognition of the significant career opportunities that are becoming available within this rapidly expanding field. The master’s degree is also designed for students who wish to study cultural heritage issues as an academic subject—a growing academic field.

**CHAPS Abroad**

CHAPS Abroad is an interdisciplinary six-credit summer program. It offers the opportunity to directly engage heritage preservation issues on a global level. Classes are conducted by experts in the fields of preservation and cultural heritage, and emphasize student interaction with practitioners and theorists from the host country.

Students have the additional opportunity to participate in a three credit internship/field study as part of each six-credit program. On-site participatory learning is stressed for all students, with the goal of providing academic and practical experience in a fast-growing field.

CHAPS Abroad: The Athens program is a partnership with DIKEMES—The International Center of Hellenic and Mediterranean Studies—which has a history of fifteen years of collaboration with Rutgers Study Abroad.

**Internship Opportunities**

A major focus of the program is practical professional experiences, which may include internships with appropriate institutions, firms, or governmental agencies, field work experience, and/or an abroad study experience within an approved program.

- Docomomo International
- World Monuments Fund
- U.S. State Department
- Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation
- HJGA Consulting, Architecture & Preservation
- Saving Antiquities for Everyone (S.A.F.E.)
- Ellis Island Immigration Museum

“Instead of looking at PowerPoint slides and listening to a traditional classroom lecture, our classes were held at the actual sites like the Parthenon and the Temple of Poseidon, which gave us a first-hand perspective of issues like visitorship, site viability, and marketing.”

—Nicole DeAugustine/CHAPS Student

**Courses**

There is a strong multidisciplinary and cross-cultural emphasis in CHAPS. One core course is offered in the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. CHAPS faculty includes members of the Departments of Art History, Anthropology, The Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, and the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, among others, as well as professionals in relevant fields.

Course offerings include:

- Archeology and Historic Preservation
- Heritage in the Public Sphere
- Architectural Conservation: A Sustainable Approach
- Architectural Preservation: Philosophy and Practice
- Cultures on Display: Museums, Heritage and Representation
- Cultural Resource Management
- Law, Public Policy and Ethics of Cultural Heritage Preservation
Degree Requirements

The Masters in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies is a two-year program (30 credits). The program consists of two required core courses:

- Seminar in Global Cultural Heritage Preservation
- Issues in Planning and Historic Preservation (Bloustein School/topics vary)

Four elective courses must be selected from the following general categories:

- Theoretical/historical aspects of cultural heritage preservation
- Site, monument, and object preservation
- Cultural landscapes
- Administration/management/ethics and policy issues

Courses originating in the Department of Art History and courses anchored in other departments can be used to fulfill elective requirements.

Two distinct three-credit internships or one six-credit internship are required. The internship/fieldwork component is designed individually in consultation with the advisor and is arranged with regard to the student’s area of focus.

Proficiency in one foreign language is required.

A master’s thesis—an in-depth analysis of an issue in the student’s area of focus—is required. Students ideally will spent two semesters working on their thesis, registering for three thesis research credits each semester of their second year.

Admissions

Admission Requirements

Application to the program is competitive, and made through the Graduate Program of the Department of Art History. Applicants must complete and submit the online application form available on the Graduate Admissions office website.

Applicants must include a personal statement addressing their background—including courses in Art History and/or other disciplines relevant to the field of Cultural Heritage Preservation—as well as their suitability for the program. At present, financial support in the form of fellowships or grants is not available.

Deadline for fall admission: March 1
Deadline for spring admission: November 1
(Extensions are available under certain circumstances)

Online Applications

Applications can be submitted online at: http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu

For more information

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