Programme

How to care for your photographs

Details

Monday 4th November – Tuesday 5th November 2024. Hybrid course (Online & Onsite):

PART I, Online: 10.30 AM – 12.30 PM BST

PART II, In person: V&A South Kensington

Three half-day slots will be available to complete the onsite practical workshop at V&A South Kensington:

Monday 4th November: 14.00 – 17.00 PM

Tuesday 5th November: 10.00 AM – 12.30 PM

14.00 – 16.30 PM

Overview

Photographic collections, whether they are artistic, archival, or family heirlooms, are invaluable and intricate artifacts that demand special care.

This hybrid course, taking place both online and in person at V&A South Kensington, will outline the guiding principles, best practice and the practical skills for preserving photographic collections.

Attendees will learn about the different historic and contemporary photographic processes and materials, understanding factors contributing to their deterioration and implementing methods to ensure long-term accessibility, and enjoyment.
This hybrid course is open to anyone with an interest in photographic collections and their care, as well as professional or volunteers in archives, museums, or the heritage sector working with photographic materials.

Once you have purchased the course, we will get in touch with you to allocate you to the slot of your choice, on either Monday 4th November (PM) or Tuesday 5th November. Slots will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Your course leaders

This hybrid course will be jointly led by Barbara Borghese and Ioannis Vasallos.

Barbara is the Lead Conservator for books, paper and photographs at the V&A. With 25 years of experience working in museums, libraries and archives, she is a Fellow of the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Work and is a consultant in collection care projects.

PART I - Monday 4th November 2024
Online on Teams: 10.30 AM – 12.30 PM BST

Theory: Methodologies & Best Practice

10.30 Principles of Collection Care and/or Photographic Conservation
10.45 Overview and identification of photographic materials and processes (include a small section on Digital prints)
11.45 Break
12.00 Factors of deterioration and preservation actions
12.30 End of online course
PART II – Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th November 2024

Onsite at V&A South Kensington

Three half-day slots will be available for the practical workshop onsite at V&A South Kensington:

**Monday 4th November:** 10.30 – 12.30 PM

**Tuesday 5th November:** 10.00 – 12.30 PM
2.00 – 4.30 PM

Once you have purchased the course, we will get in touch with you to allocate you to the slot of your choice, on either Monday 4th November (PM) or Tuesday 5th November (AM and PM).

**Slots will be allocated on a first come first served basis.**

Part II of the course will allow you to put your learning into practice and will cover:

- Examination and safe handling of photographs
- Storage and housing of photographs
- Handling training
- Choosing materials and simple mounting systems for display or housing of family photographs

By the end of the onsite workshop, attendees will:

- Identify and categorise common photographic processes according to their materials and structure, understanding their sensitivities
- Recognise deterioration factors and implement preventive measures
- Confidently handle photographs in their collection
- Determine optimal storage, display, and enjoyment methods for their photographs

**What to bring to PART II of the course**

- Tweezers

If you are unable to come to both the online and onsite parts of the course, there is also the possibility to book only onto Part I (Online) at the following link.