

V&A Academy

# INTRODUCTION TO CURATION



# Introduction

Curating today is more than caring for objects—it's about shaping stories, fostering dialogue, and connecting communities with collections in meaningful ways.

Introduction to Curation is a practice-led course, designed around research conducted by the V&A. Each week features V&A curators –who will share insights into their practice and reflect on current challenges and opportunities. The course combines live case studies, group discussions, and critical reflection to unpack the evolving contexts in which curating takes place.

From established gallery and museum systems to site-specific interventions, participants will gain exposure to a wide spectrum of curatorial practice—including festivals, digital, and research.

This course is ideal for early- mid career professionals or students exploring cultural careers.

# Information

Wednesdays, 17th September – 8th October 13.00-16.30. Online.

Watch lecture recordings on demand, available at the end of each day, until 5 November 2025.

*Note: V&A Academy programmes are subject to change without notice.*

# Programme

## Week 1 – 17 September

### Introduction: What is a curator?

Chaired by Simon Sladen

- 13:00 Introduction to the Course
- 13:10 What does it mean to be a curator **Joanna Norman, Director of Research, NAL and V&A Archives • VARI, NAL and Archives**
- 14:15 Curating Collections, **Simon Sladen, Senior Curator, Theatre & Performance • Performance, Furniture, Textiles and Fashion**
- 15:15 An Audience Led Approach to Curation **Georgia Haseldine, Senior Curator, V&A East Storehouse**

## Week 2 – 24 September

### Developing and sharing knowledge

Chaired by Simon Sladen

- 13:00 Digital Engagement and content creation **Ruth Hibbard, Curator, Loans, Art, Architecture, Photography and Design and Holly Hyams, Content Editor**
- 14:15 Activating collections through programming **Emma Mills, Assistant Curator, Theatre & Performance**
- 15:15 Research outputs: Exploring different ways to share research, **Kira d'Albuquerque, Senior Curator, Sculpture and Rachel Boyd, Senior Curator, Renaissance Sculpture**

## **Week 3 – 01 October**

### **Global Issues**

Chaired by Joanna Norman

- 13:00 Provenance and Reinstitution **Alexandra Watson Jones, Provenance Research Curator**
- 14:15 Decolonial approaches **Donata Miller-Obebe, Assistant Curator, Africa and Diaspora** and **Thupten Kelsang, Early Career Fellow, Asia**
- 15:15 Sustainability and Curatorial Practice **Connie Karol Burks, Curator, Fashion and Textiles since 1900**

## **Week 4 – 08 October**

### **Co-production: Collaborating with different stakeholders**

Chaired by Joanna Norman

- 13:00 How should we tell the stories of Robin Hood Gardens, **Ben Selig, Assistant Curator** and **Afia Yeboah, Senior Producer Community Partnerships, V&A East**
- 14:15 Curating Objects for Children and Young People **Alex Newson, Chief Curator, Young V&A**
- 15:15 Co- design and consultation for exhibitions **Natalie Kane, Curator, Digital Design**