

Thank you for your interest in this course, we recommend that you allow plenty of time for travel and aim to be at the Art School 10-15 minutes before your appointment in order to avoid delays caused by transport difficulties.

Conservation MA applicants come from a wide range of backgrounds, from professional conservation practitioners to recent graduates of conservation related undergraduate courses. We therefore ask you to select relevant material to bring with you such as examples of undergraduate course work, documentation of conservation related projects, any craft based work, drawings, photography, sketchbooks or notebooks. We are not expecting you to present a portfolio in any particular format – we want to see anything that you consider relevant that helps you to show us your knowledge of and commitment to the subject and your experience in related fields. If you do not have any material to bring with you then please let us know in advance and we can discuss other options with you.

We encourage you to inform us in advance if the arrangements for your interview require adjustment due to an existing condition or disability. For example if you might require more time or specific access arrangements or other support. Our aim is to ensure that all eligible applicants are given a fair opportunity to demonstrate their potential to study on the course.

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR CONSERVATION MA

At interview by viewing your work and your responses to questions we are seeking to determine the extent to which you can:

- Demonstrate commitment, motivation for the course
- Evidence practical and theoretical knowledge of the subject
- Gather, research and synthesise information;
- Critically evaluate your own achievements and recognise areas for development;
- Evidence an interest in and knowledge of cultural objects and their historical context;
- Demonstrate a range of hand skills and technical abilities
- Plan and prioritise your own time and set achievable goals
- Communicate ideas verbally and in writing
- Self direct and evaluate your own work.

We are also looking for evidence of:

- manual dexterity;
- observational skills;
- an informed approach to problem solving and project management;
- an appetite to research objects, materials and their behaviour;
- patience and attention to detail

INTERVIEW TASKS AND QUESTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

Interviews for the Conservation MA set out to determine your skills sets and knowledge in a range of areas necessary for Conservation study at this level. Conservation is a highly specialist subject and only a few undergraduate courses are available that cover all of the areas necessary for studying MA Conservation. For this reason the interview process takes place over **two days** with a number of tasks set for you so that we can ascertain your knowledge, strengths and areas for further development.

These tasks are designed to support you to best demonstrate your abilities in relation to the selection criteria. We want you to feel comfortable and confident and to ensure fairness and help you to prepare for your interview. We have agreed upon a set of key questions for all interviews for MA Conservation. These are set out below. Meanwhile you should use your interview visit as an opportunity to get a good idea about the Art School: our values and ethos, the course, and what studying here would be like and we encourage you to ask questions and see the interview as a 2 way process.

Interview elements:

1. Applicants will have a short interview with a set of key questions. (30 minutes)
2. You will be asked to study a specific object and discuss and draft a condition report based on your visual observation and analysis. (2 hours)
3. You will then be given a series of papers to work through with questions related to different areas of conservation such as the chemistry of cleaning and consolidation and conservation theory and ethics. (2-3 hours)

Key questions:

1. What attracts you to study Conservation at MA level following your previous professional and/or educational experience and why did you decide to apply for this particular course?
2. What do you hope to achieve after completing the course, do you have any specific ambitions?
3. Please tell us about the type of cultural artefacts that you are interested to work on as a conservator? How will you research the contexts of these artefacts and what do you anticipate being the main challenges?
4. Do you have any questions for us?

Supplementary questions will also be asked about the material that you bring with you or to follow on from your answers to the key questions.



Should you have any further queries please check our [website](#) or email us directly at admissions@cityandguildsartschool.ac.uk.