



## Corso di laurea magistrale in Architettura-Restauro

### Course of Architectural Restoration (8 ECTS)

#### Programme

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##### Synthetic description

Architectural Restoration is a complex subject, which gathers together founding theoretical issues and high-tech aspects. Therefore, the Architectural Restoration Laboratory includes subjects dealing with theories, and topics dealing with techniques of restoration. The Course has the purpose of providing the basic elements to understand the main theories of restoration over the centuries and, at the same time, the critical and technical tools for the elaboration of a project of conservation. On the one hand, the theoretical basics of restoration are taught, on the other hand, students learn a method for historic building conservation.

##### Course entry requirements

Students have to have knowledge of History of architecture and traditional building materials. Basic knowledge on Architectural Drawing and Descriptive Geometry are essential prerequisites for the course.

##### Course programme

The course is organized in lectures, seminars and practical work to verify the evolution of the project which the professor assigns to each group of students; the course, in fact, includes a practical part which consists of the elaboration of a project of conservation, consolidation and re-use of a historic building.

The lectures start from the theoretical aspect; in this way, the basic elements for the elaboration of the project of conservation are given. At the same time, the theoretical part is necessary to understand the cultural features of the course.

The study of constructive and maintenance techniques, of the different ways of use of the building, the analytic investigation of these transformations over time (from the supposed original building to the last restoration), the consequent awareness of the complexity of the historic building (which is its major value) and of the processes of structural and material degradation which have affected it, are necessary elements for a correct approach to a compatible project of conservation and re-use.

Lectures are organized according to the following topics:

A. FEATURES OF THEORY OF RESTORATION, with particular attention to the relationship between comprehension of history of the building and design; the main theoretical tendencies in contemporary debate in relation to the project: authenticity, minimum intervention, reversibility, re-use, accessibility;

B. ANALYSES OF HISTORIC BUILDING AND ITS STRATIFICATION: historic research (in archives, bibliography, iconography), measurement, photographic survey, the stratigraphic analyses;

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C. ANALYSES OF DEGRADATION: recording, interpretation, study of measures to resolve or reduce degradation;

D. STUDY FOR COMPATIBLE RE-USE, experiences.

Themes for practical work:

Practice deals with the study of a historical building, through historic and archival documentation and measurement. This first phase is followed by the recording of building material degradation and structural damage, and the study of the measures for conservation (for this second phase, it is sufficient to define the kind of damage and the outline of the main technical measures for control of intervention); the project of re-use, with the definition of the technological adaptations, and the study of historic buildings accessibility concludes the practice.

- The relationship between theory and project in Architectural Restoration.

### Expected results

The main theme of the subject is the conservation of historic buildings. The aim of the course is to give the student a scientific method for conservation of historic buildings. We start with an attentive research on the history of the building and scrupulous surveys and measurements, studying structural techniques and building materials, but also degradation and stress in relation to the historic transformation of the building itself. This intimate knowledge of the building governs and justifies interventions for conservation, and a compatible re-use of the building.

Particular attention is given to historic building accessibility, also in relation to the national law for architectural features barring advance to the handicapped. This aspect, in fact, is considered an important part of the project of re-use.

### Student's independent work

During the course, students elaborate a project which deals with the conservation of a historic building selected in agreement with the professor. The different phases of the project, from survey to re-use project, are verified by the professors during the hours dedicated to practical work.

### Testing and exams

Students' learning is tested through a completed project, and is a basic requisite for admission to the final exam. During the course, students are also tested through continual assessment (multiple-choice, short essays). The final exam is based both on topics studied during the lessons and the bibliography specified in the program. For project work the students can present in groups, but the final exam is individual. Starting from theoretical aspects, through to technological questions, the exam covers all phases of the project.

Suggested reading materials

A. BELLINI (a cura di), *Tecniche della conservazione*, Franco Angeli editore, Milano 1986;

G. CARONARA (a cura di), *Trattato di restauro architettonico*, Utet, Torino 1996, Voll. I-IV ; Voll. V-VII (Impianti); Voll. IX-XI (ed aggiornamenti);

B.P. TORSELLO, *Che cos'è il restauro? Nove studiosi a confronto*, Marsilio, Venezia 2005;

S. F. MUSSO (a cura di), *Recupero e restauro degli edifici storici. Guida pratica al rilievo e alla diagnostica*, II edizione, EPC libri, Roma 2006;

S. VALTIERI (a cura di), *Vademecum per il progetto di restauro dell'architettura*, GB Editoria, Roma 2007;

Useful references include:

Journals "TeMa" (Tempo, Materia, Architettura), "ANATKH" (Cultura, storia e tecniche della conservazione), "Arkos", "Casabella".

Other references and resources are given during the lectures.