TULANE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

MASTER OF PRESERVATION STUDIES

CURRICULUM AND COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

2016
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Master of Preservation Studies (MPS) program within the Tulane School of Architecture provides an interdisciplinary opportunity to learn about building and urban preservation in one of America’s most historic cities. New Orleans offers a wealth of experience in architectural heritage protection resulting from its eighty years of historic preservation legislation and over a century of preservation achievements. The MPS Program at Tulane is noted for its work since 1997 involving local and regional partners, including the Vieux Carré Commission (the second oldest historic district commission in the United States), and the nationally recognized Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans.

The three-semester program consists of an integrated balance of courses on the history and theory of historic preservation, architectural history, preservation law and administrative procedures, documentation methods, conservation technology, and studios addressing the restoration and rehabilitation of individual buildings and urban conservation. Two courses entail travel to meet peers and observe methods in other places. A special distinction of the Tulane Master of Preservation Studies program is its several courses that engage students in actual preservation projects and programs in the region, usually under the aegis of sponsoring agencies and non-profit organizations. The third semester is devoted primarily to the students’ choice of either a thesis or a work practicum under close guidance of the faculty.

Tulane and New Orleans provide extraordinary opportunities for both in-class and hands-on architectural preservation education. The course offerings, combined with student-designed practicum or thesis and internships, ensure that those attending the Master of Preservation Studies Program receive an education that meets their individual needs and preferences. The program builds upon the strengths of the Tulane School of Architecture and its commitment to the design of quality architecture for the immediate community, the Gulf-Caribbean region, and the nation.

The broad goals of the MPS program are:

- To provide students with a comprehensive overview of historic preservation theory and its rationale
- To explain the structure of the preservation field, its organizations, participants, and related resources
- To teach standards and methods of professional practice both in the U.S. and abroad
- To encourage the development of analytical and problem solving skills for effective building and urban preservation
• To ensure that students learn to communicate effectively in writing as well as verbally on matters of architecture and historic preservation
• To teach specific skills in academic research, materials conservation, and building documentation
• To enable students to identify architectural styles, building types, and materials
• To foster an understanding of the value of preservation in a broad context of community improvement, cultural diversity, and environmental conservation
• To encourage each student to develop individual interests and skills and their application in various careers in cultural heritage management

These goals are achieved through the syncretic and exploratory character of the studio experience, rigorous coursework, regional and international travel, special educational events and tours, and experiences gained through internships and practicum placement. Faculty members and advisors are always available to assist students in fully realizing the opportunities offered by the MPS program. The MPS program is a deliberately concise and intensive education in cultural heritage management with an emphasis on architectural preservation. The interdisciplinary approach offered by the Master of Preservation Studies Program prepares graduates for participation in all facets of the profession and practice of architectural preservation.

Contact
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jstubbs2@tulane.edu
**CURRICULUM DESCRIPTION**

**Year One: Fall**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRST 6510, 6 cr.</td>
<td>Studio I: Building Preservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRST 6610, 3 cr.</td>
<td>History of North American Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRST 6710, 3 cr.</td>
<td>Introduction to Preservation Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRST 6480, 2 cr.</td>
<td>Historic Preservation Law Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRST 6410, 3 cr.</td>
<td>U.S. Field Studies and Advocacy</td>
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</tbody>
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17 credits total

MArch students taking preservation studios should register for DSGN 7300.

**PRST 6510 – Studio I: Building Preservation**

Taught by Michael Shoriak

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays – 1:00pm - 5:00pm – RMH 401

Building Preservation concentrates on documenting, analyzing, and planning for the preservation of historic buildings as a basis for understanding the technical, theoretical, and procedural aspects of architectural preservation practice. The course includes intensive study of selected historic buildings and environments in the New Orleans area and the Gulf Coast region. The studio explores the differences between building stabilization, adaptive reuse, rehabilitation and restoration. Local and non-local field trips provide students with exposure to a range of historic structures and their treatments from a preservation perspective as well as modern infill buildings, and a concomitant opportunity to document historic environments and building conditions. In-class seminars cover topics such as hand drafting, use of specific graphics programs, geospatial analysis and research techniques. Working in a studio setting, students will produce measured drawings and illustrated research documents discussing historic buildings and components, materials and systems. Digital documentation and related informational presentation methods are also stressed starting with the basics. This course serves as a foundation course for Preservation Studio II: Urban Conservation.

**PRST 6610 – History of North American Architecture**

Taught by Laura Blokker

Thursdays – 2:00pm - 4:45pm – RMH 305

This course provides a broad overview of American architecture and examines buildings as pieces of technology, art, and material culture. It introduces architectural history as a discipline and explores how it has evolved over time – particularly in the United States – with review of its historiography. Form, fabric, function, and proportion will be among the many aspects of historic architecture
explored. While the focus will be on architecture within the geographic boundaries of the US, the larger North American context will be considered. The content of this course is meant to compliment other courses in the MPS curriculum and to provide the emerging preservation professional with key skills and knowledge they will need in this field. At the same time, it will provide architecture students in any track with a unique understanding of our architectural past and present as it exists as premise and context for innovative new design. Students will be challenged to think critically both about buildings themselves and about the way others have discussed and presented them. Weekly readings will be the basis of class discussions in which students are expected to actively participate. Development of appropriate architectural vocabulary will be emphasized. The final project will be the development of a professional quality National Register of Historic Places nomination for an individual property.

**PRST 6710 – Introduction to Preservation Studies**
Taught by John Stubbs
Tuesdays – 2:00pm – 4:00pm – RMH 305

This course offers an in-depth look at the parameters and practice of architectural preservation as an introduction to the profession. Coursework will chart the evolution of the preservation field from the late 18th century to present including its prevailing theories, accomplishments, and their effects. The course examines motives for preservation, its causal nature, its benefits, and how preservation valorizes heritage sites. Methods of assessing the significance, values, and extended or re-use potentials of sites are explored in the light of practical choices. The course introduces key allied disciplines of the field and explains the roles of local, national and international preservation organizations. Reading assignments, guest lecturers, and field trips enrich the content of this course.

**PRST 6480 – Historic Preservation Law Seminar**
Taught by Lloyd (Sonny) Shields
Tuesdays – 6:00pm-8:00pm – Weinmann Hall, Room 257

This course provides an in-depth examination of historic preservation legislation at the Federal, State, and Local levels including its origins, effects, and application for use in contemporary preservation practice. After an introduction of the subject including special instruction to Preservation students on how to read case law, the course reviews a variety of law cases including their precedents and results. The course is offered to both Law and MPS students with special consideration given by Professor Shields to the Preservation students and their
probable lack of background in the study of Law. Course examinations include making an expert presentation to the class using PowerPoint.

**PRST 6410 – U.S. Field Studies and Advocacy**  
Taught by Danielle Del Sol  
Thursdays – 10:00am – 12:00pm – RMH 305 (when on campus)

This course will examine preservation advocacy using readings, lectures, and field trips as the primary teaching tools. It is meant to be a complement to the Intro to Preservation course, where students learn about the inner workings and practice of historic preservation – this course allows them to see it in action – and as preparation for Spring’s Internship course. Students will learn about methods for the application of historic preservation practice within the United States and its effects from the individuals and organizations pursuing those methods. The course will begin with specific instruction on how to use some of the most important research tools available in New Orleans to do property analyses. These skills will help students throughout the MPS program and beyond, and will give them an understanding of how some of the organizations and preservation professionals we meet later in the course obtain the information they need to save buildings.

After research methods are addressed, advocacy will be studied in depth; speakers and site visits will represent a range of constituencies, from citizens leading grass-roots advocacy efforts to save buildings or neighborhoods to the work of local organizations, state and federal organizations, to lawyers, business people, and others enacting transformation via historic preservation practices. Field trips to local organizations will help students understand first-hand how local activists and organizations use tools to affect change in New Orleans, with the understanding that similar organizations in cities nation-wide are likely operating similarly. Instruction will culminate at the annual conference for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, to be held this year in Washington, D.C. from November 3-6.

**Year One: Spring**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRST 6520</td>
<td>6 cr.</td>
<td>Studio II: Urban Conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRST 6620</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
<td>History of New Orleans Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRST 6720</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
<td>Preservation Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRST 6810</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
<td>Economics &amp; Business of Preservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRST 6530</td>
<td>1 cr.</td>
<td>Internship in Preservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRST 6420</td>
<td>1 cr.</td>
<td>International Field Studies (or recommended elective)</td>
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17 credits total
PRST 6520 – Studio II: Urban Conservation
Taught by John Stubbs and Beth Jacobs
Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays – 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Urban Conservation is a six-credit hour course that concentrates on documenting, analyzing, and planning for the preservation of enclaves of buildings as a basis for understanding the technical, theoretical, and procedural aspects of urban conservation. The course includes intensive study of representative historic residential and commercial districts, including streetscapes in the New Orleans region where students work both as independent researchers and in teams to learn professional preservation planning concepts and methods. This studio examines sites comprising historic buildings representing different styles and periods in various conditions where choices in restoration versus rehabilitation versus new work must be considered. Solutions for such situations will be explored with respect to current architectural preservation principles and procedures.

Investigations of city planning, zoning, historic district protection regulations, and participation at a relevant public review meeting are parts of this course. Information gathering techniques including surveys of the urban context of study areas and consulting local stakeholders towards re-imagining damaged, blighted and underutilized urban areas are also aspects of the course. The course involves both fieldwork and class seminars, occasionally including other Tulane University faculty and experts in the field.

PRST 6520 serves as a sequel to PRST 6510 - Studio I: Building Preservation taught in the Fall semester. Both are required courses for MPS students and will accept a limited number of students in TSA’s M. Arch program by agreement with the department heads.

PRST 6620 – History of New Orleans Architecture
Taught by Robert Cangelosi
Mondays 5:30-8:30pm – RMH 204

This illustrated course examines New Orleans architecture from the city’s founding in 1718 to the present time, as well as its historic neighborhoods. The city’s architectural legacy will be explored from the standpoint of broad architectural stylistic trends, their relationship to national and international trends, the forces and architects that helped shape the styles, and local building types. Thirty-eight architectural styles will be examined, including Colonial, Revivals, Aesthetic, Eclectic, Arts and Crafts, and Modern Movements. Identifying characteristics and materials of each style will be discussed through numerous illustrations demonstrating the variety of each style based on the most current
research. Historic interiors and landscapes will be perfunctorily addressed. Field observations of historic architecture will be included, as well as an urban history of New Orleans. Independent course papers are required. There will be some overlap between this and other courses in the MPS program.

PRST 6720 – Preservation Technology
Taught by Laura Blokker
Thursdays 1-3:30 PM RMH 201

This course will provide an overview of preservation technology and building materials conservation. This is the study of historic building materials and the technical means used to document, diagnose, analyze and design interventions to preserve these materials. It is, in the most basic sense, the technical means by which to accomplish preservation. It involves the examination and treatment of historic and cultural resources utilizing an established system of principles and procedures based on a foundation of preservation theory and methodology.

Through lectures, in-class demonstrations, and field sessions, students will be exposed to the nature, composition and deterioration mechanisms of a range of building materials including stone, metal, brick, mortars, plasters, paint, and wood. Progressive exercises will build students' competency in the assessment of materials and elements, culminating in a whole building evaluation.

PRST 6810 – Economics and Practice of Historic Preservation
Taught by Courtney Williams
Thursdays 5:30-7:30pm RMH 204

The Economics and Practice of Preservation course concentrates on the financial aspects of historic architectural preservation including its economic benefits, methods of valuation, and tax incentives. The course involves several guest speakers and considers the perspectives of the key players involved in preservation practice. The latter half of the course analyzes the professional practice of preservation including current trends and future directions. Strategies for entering and succeeding in the cultural heritage management profession conclude this course.

PRST 6530 – Internship
Directed by Danielle Del Sol and an approved sponsor

The MPS Internship course requires 60 hours of unpaid work for a preservation agency, a suitable non-profit, or a restoration firm. An internship may be a special project or daily work for the organization, but the activities must be meaningful
and contribute to the student’s professional development. Students gain practical experience by working in a professional situation and are required to submit a diary and a report about their work. The faculty will assist students in arranging internships after school begins; however, students are advised to conduct their own research to locate organizations that are of interest to each of them. The MPS program routinely works with a number of organizations, contacts for which are provided by the instructor. Students must obtain a letter of intent from the organization to the MPS Director stating the nature of the internship, the individual to whom the student will report, and specific duties.

**PRST 6420 – International Field Studies**  
Directed by John Stubbs

The International Field Studies course requires travel to observe or to participate in architectural preservation practice abroad. Students gain up-to-date knowledge and experience through firsthand exposure to professional preservationists and their work in other countries. The selection of a place to visit will be agreed upon prior to the end of the Fall Semester, and the study trip of approximately eight days will occur during Tulane’s Spring Break.

The faculty will assist students in arranging their preservation study abroad experience, although it is each student’s responsibility to pay all related costs beyond available travel scholarship funds offered and, if necessary, organize their own travel and accommodations. The International Field Studies trip will likely include an MPS faculty member accompanying the student group. Students unable to travel internationally may opt out of taking this course and instead take an approved elective or have a substitute educational experience involving international preservation.

Five class meetings will be held prior to the field studies abroad that will prepare students for the trip and observing international heritage conservation projects.

As with its counterpart, the U.S. Field Studies and Advocacy course, this course requires the submission of a 10-page paper on what you did to satisfy the course’s requirements, what you learned during your experience, and why in your opinion your experience was relevant to the historic preservation profession. The due date for submission of your PRST 6420 Field Studies Report is no later than March 30, 2015.
**Year Two: Fall or Spring (Semester #3)**

PRST 6900, 6 cr.  Preservation Practicum  OR
PRST 6920, 6 cr.  Preservation Thesis

A general MPS faculty review will be made of each Thesis and Practicum in progress during late September. The submission dates of drafts and final work products are listed below.

*It is the responsibility of each student to Apply for Graduation at the beginning of the semester in which they are taking their Practicum in order to graduate. This correspondence should be conducted primarily with Ms. Natalia Fuentes, TSA Senior Administrative Program Coordinator at nfuentes@tulane.edu, tel. (504) 314-2363.*

**PRST 6900 – Preservation Practicum**

Directed by John Stubbs, MPS staff, and a Practicum sponsor

The Practicum for the Master of Preservation Studies program is an alternative option to the Thesis requirement and is an important part of the MPS course of study. The Practicum is expected to be a concentrated and valuable work experience that the student chooses that must relate to the field of historic preservation. Its accomplishment must entail 480 hours (three months, full-time) unpaid work with an organization. There is wide scope with regard to the possible organizations and locations for students to pursue their practicum experience. With prior approval, students may receive a small stipend or honorarium.

Organization of the Practicum experience is the student’s responsibility and must be done in cooperation with the organization that invites your participation and your advisor. A summary description of your Practicum including its title, a précis of the work’s scope and aims, a production schedule, and the names of your advisor(s) is due on or before August 15th (or January 5th if graduating in May) and should be refined and developed through the second week of September (or the third week in January, respectively). A general MPS faculty review will be made of each Practicum (and Thesis) in progress during the third week in September or the first week in February, depending on which semester the student is registered for the course.

A summary description of your Practicum’s intentions and responsibilities, an anticipated schedule, and the names of both your on-site supervisor(s) and your MPS faculty advisor is due prior to the beginning of the third week in the semester in which you are registered for this course. Both a letter of commitment and a letter of satisfactory completion of your practicum are required from the sponsoring organization.
The submission date of the final draft of your Practicum Report is on or before November 10th for the Fall semester and April 10th for the Spring semester. The deadline for submission of the final faculty and advisor printable copy of the Practicum Report is on or before December 1st in order to graduate in December and on or before April 20th for those graduating in May. Your Practicum Report should be a minimum of 50 pages long and should describe your accomplishments in the context of the contemporary preservation practice. One quarter of your Practicum Report should be devoted to how your experience reflected practical work beyond the walls of the University.

You may have more than one MPS faculty member, including the Director of the MPS Program, as your Practicum advisor. The MPS faculty and advisor(s) expect to be in regular communication with the student on his or her work in the Practicum environment in order to understand your progress and offer advice.

Students choosing the Practicum option may do so only after completion of the first year’s course of study, typically in the fall of the second year. As of Fall 2011, students must register and pay for the Practicum course and complete the course during the same semester in which the course is pursued. If for a very good reason (such as a documented medical emergency) the student cannot complete the Practicum in one semester, special arrangements may be requested of the Director of the MPS Program and the Senior Program Coordinator.

PRST 6920 – Preservation Thesis
Directed by John Stubbs, MPS staff, and Advisors

The Thesis is a major course within the MPS program since it calls upon most of what a student has learned during his or her graduate school experience. There is wide scope with regard to possible topic choices and the location of a thesis subject can be anywhere, although if your thesis is site-specific, you must have some firsthand knowledge of the place by the end of the preceding semester. The thesis topic must relate to the field of historic preservation and its contents should be based mostly on primary research.

A summary description of your thesis topic including its title, a précis of the work’s scope and aims, a draft table of contents, a preliminary bibliography, a production schedule, and the names of your advisor(s) is due before the beginning of the second week in the semester. The principal MPS faculty advisor and Assistant to the MPS Program expect to be in regular communication with the student on updated plans for completion of periodic submissions in order to provide appropriate feedback and advice. You may have more than one TSA faculty member as your thesis advisor; a principal advisor from Tulane (John
Stubbs or any teacher scheduled for the semester you are taking this course) must serve as your primary advisor. You may be additionally be advised by someone outside the university.

It is anticipated that most students will undertake their thesis course after completion of the first year’s course of study, typically in the fall of the second year. As of Fall 2011, students must register the Thesis course and complete the thesis during the same semester in which the course is pursued. The Thesis course must be completed in a single semester. If for a very good reason (such as a documented medical emergency) the student cannot complete the Thesis in one semester, special arrangements may be requested of the Director of the MPS Program and the Senior Program Coordinator.

The submission date of the final draft of your thesis is on or before November 10th for the Fall semester and on or before March 20th for the spring semester. These dates allow time for revisions and other changes to the thesis. The final deadline for submission of the thesis is on or before December 1st in order to graduate in December and on or before April 20th for those graduating in May. The thesis for the MPS program should be a minimum of 100 pages long. Writing conventions for thesis final presentations are found on Tulane University’s general website.

**Portfolio of Work**

*Required for Graduation*

*For submission to the MPS Program Director*

A portfolio of representative aspects of your work while attending the MPS Program must be submitted to the Director of the MPS Program on or before the above-mentioned Thesis and Practicum final submission due dates. The format for this work is “open,” although it is recommended that you place your work in a well-organized, visually compelling presentation within an 8 ½” x 11” or an 11” x 14” protective loose leaf or spiral binder. Examples of appropriate material to be included in the Portfolio are graphics, sketches, reductions of field drawings, demonstrations of your digital/computer and design skills, samples of writing, your thesis abstract or Introduction, photography and the like. The submitted portfolio will be available for return to you after graduation and should be helpful in gaining future employment.