Overview

The Preservation Studies program at the Tulane School of Architecture offers an interdisciplinary opportunity to learn about urban preservation in one of America's most historic cities. New Orleans maintains a wealth of experience in architectural heritage protection resulting from its over 80 years of historic preservation legislation and its history of preservation achievements.

For more information, please contact the Interim Director.

Laura Blokker (lblokker@tulane.edu), Interim Director, Preservation Studies

Programs

Undergraduate

Minors

• Preservation Minor (https://catalog.tulane.edu/architecture/preservation/preservation-minor/)

Graduate

• Preservation Studies Certificate (Graduate) (https://catalog.tulane.edu/architecture/preservation/preservation-studies-cer/)

• Preservation Studies, MPS (https://catalog.tulane.edu/architecture/preservation/preservation-studies-mps/)

Courses

Preservation Studies (PRST)

PRST 6210 Intro Preservation Studies (3)

Through this course, the history of the preservation movement in the Americas will be studied to understand the theoretical, ethical, and philosophical concepts and ideas that will render the physical activity of restoration valid. Values and attitudes of the various cultural groups and settings in the Americas will be reviewed. The role played by preservation philosophies and theories of European and Oriental context will be studied.

PRST 6220 Preservation Technology (3)

This course will study the highly complex construction methods and systems ranging from traditional rammed earth systems, sun dried bricks, fired bricks, stone and wood, to the new materials developed since the industrial revolution (i.e., iron and steel, reinforced concrete, petrochemical based materials). Understanding the process of procuring construction materials and production, will allow the student to understand the process of deterioration which eventually leads to the need of understanding Preservation Technology.

PRST 6310 Env Law:Historic Preservation (2)

PRST 6320 Econ & Practice of Preservation (3)

PRST 6410 US Preservation Field Studies and Advocacy (3)

This course will examine preservation advocacy, using field trips and guest lecturers. Students will learn about methods for the application of historic preservation law and practice within the United States and its effects. 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. Field trips to local organizations will likely include the Preservation Resource Center, the Pitot House, Felicity Street Redevelopment, Small Center for Collaborative Design, the State Historic Preservation Office in Baton Rouge, and the annual conference of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This course will also teach students the research skills needed for in-depth property examinations. Guest lecturers and trips to important archives will teach students to understand Sanborn maps, title chains and more.

PRST 6420 International Field Studies (1)

The International Field Studies course entails travel to discover and learn from architectural heritage conservation practice abroad. Students gain up to date knowledge through first-hand exposure to professional preservationists and their work through visiting counterpart educational institutions and conserved buildings, sites, and urban settings. The selection of a single place to visit in satisfaction of this course's requirements will be agreed upon prior to the beginning of the semester. The study trip of approximately 7 days usually occurs during Spring Break. During the first six weeks of the term, lectures are offered on International Architectural Conservation Practice that address matters of World Heritage, regional developments in heritage conservation, international practice, and background to the places we plan to visit.
PRST 6510  Bldg Preservation Studio  (6)
This studio is the beginning orientation course that examines all aspects of preservation concerns related to the individual building or group of buildings. The student will learn how to analyze the condition of the building(s) and its (their) context. The studio will examine the differences between building stabilization, adaptive reuse, renovation and restoration. A travel and research component will use real life experiences to illustrate the interdisciplinary nature of preservation in the Americas. An internship in an area of personal choice (such as house museum, community action organization, governmental agency, heritage education or community renewal program) will be developed during this studio.

PRST 6520  Urban Conservation Studio  (6)
Students will do extensive field work to learn analysis, documentation, interpretation and the techniques required for neighborhood, community and general environmental renewal. Basic land use controls, urban design and planning components and developmental alternatives as related to preservation and conservation concerns will be investigated. The role played by landscape and natural systems will be investigated as they relate to the evolution and future opportunities of both rural and urban contexts.

PRST 6610  History of American Arch  (3)
This course will investigate the Pre-Columbian world of the Americas through the Colonial Period. Landscape, decorative arts and furniture will be surveyed. Design, theory, and their influences will be considered. The course will utilize examples of preservation and conservation projects to illustrate the changes in architectural styles over time and the special issues and challenges that have been created. Individual and group projects and reports will develop public presentation skills.

PRST 6620  New Orleans Architecture  (3)
This course will focus on the natural and built world of the Americas during the 19th and 20th centuries. Pattern books, interior design, landscape, and urban design theories will be investigated through careful studies of preservation and conservation. Group discussion and individual presentation of research projects will allow the student to integrate their research findings in a public format.

PRST 6830  GIS for Historic Preservation  (1)

PRST 6850  Preservation Internship  (1-3)
A sixty hour internship with an approved preservation agency such as the Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans, the South Eastern Architecture Archive at Tulane, the NEW Orleans Historic District Landmarks Commission, the Vieux Carre Commission, the Historic New Orleans Collection or some similar entity will provide the student with hands on experience, research opportunities, archival work, public service and heritage education opportunities. The internship can be performed at anytime during the course of academic studies. It will require a contract that defines the activities of the internship and a letter of successful completion from the Director of the chosen agency. The internship will be coordinated by the Director of the Preservation Studies Program and an adviser.

PRST 6900  Preservation Practicum  (6)
The Practicum for the Master of Preservation Studies program is an alternative option to the Thesis requirement 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.

PRST 6920  Preservation Thesis  (6)
The Thesis for the MSP program 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 first hand 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.

PRST 6930  Special Topics  (1-3)
Special Topics in Preservation. These are newly developed courses or courses taught by visiting faculty. Title and content may vary by semester. See the Schedule of Classes for specific offerings. Course may be repeated unlimited times for credit.

Course Limit: 99

PRST 6931  Special Topics  (1-3)
Special Topics in Preservation. These are newly developed courses or courses taught by visiting faculty. Title and content may vary by semester. See the Schedule of Classes for specific offerings. Course may be repeated unlimited times for credit.

Course Limit: 99
PRST 6932 Special Topics (1-3)
Special Topics in Preservation. These are newly developed courses or courses taught by visiting faculty. Title and content may vary by semester. See the Schedule of Classes for specific offerings. Course may be repeated unlimited times for credit.

Course Limit: 99

PRST 9980 Thesis Research (0)
Course may be repeated up to unlimited credit hours.

Maximum Hours: 99