

MUSEUM AND HERITAGE STUDIES

# COURSE INFORMATION

**POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MUSEUM STUDIES**

**MA (MUSEUM STUDIES)**

**PhD (MUSEUM STUDIES)**

**SCHOOL OF PEOPLE, ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING  
MASSEY UNIVERSITY, PALMERSTON NORTH  
2010**

Te ngākau pūaroa ki ngā ōhāki  
E kore e ngaro te kākano

I ruiruia mai I Rangiātea.  
Puritia! Puritia! Puritia!



**MASSEY UNIVERSITY**

Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa

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**Please note:**

Information in the Handbook is correct at the time of printing.  
 However, some changes to the content of papers may be necessary from time to time.

See Web Site at <http://pep.massey.ac.nz>

## Introduction

Thank you for your recent enquiry concerning enrolment in the Postgraduate Diploma or MA in Museum Studies.

Our job is to train museum professionals and provide professional development opportunities for them.

The skills students learn from Museum Studies @ Massey enable them to discuss, analyse and formulate solutions in a logical and well reasoned way.

Both the Postgraduate Diploma and MA in Museum Studies are professional and academic qualifications equipping you for work in any of New Zealand's museums and art galleries, science and technology centres, historic places and iwi cultural centres.

The Programme is relevant, practical and engaging. Students learn the art of critical analysis within a museological framework. Your commitment to the programme of study will be matched by tutors keen to guide your work on a one-to-one basis. The University's expertise as a distance learning provider for more than four decades is pre-eminent.

At Massey we are committed to delivering a course of study, which meets the challenging environment of museum practice today. Massey's Museum Studies graduates are working in New Zealand's major metropolitan and provincial museums or as field officers and cultural policy advisors at the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, the Department of Conservation, the Ministry for Culture and Heritage and Te Puni Kōkiri.

Museum Studies is located in the School of People, Environment and Planning. Other programmes in the School include Geography, Social Anthropology, Resource and Environmental Planning, Development Studies, Politics and Sociology.

If there is anything in this booklet that requires clarification – or you have questions you need answered do not hesitate to contact me.

Programme Co-ordinator Susan Abasa,  
S.F.Abasa@massey.ac.nz

## Museum Studies

The Museum Studies Programme was established in 1989 with the financial support of the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board and the support of the national professional association for all museum staff, the Art Galleries and Museums Association of New Zealand (now known as Museums Aotearoa).

Over 300 students have graduated with the Postgraduate Diploma in Museum Studies and another 30 with the Master of Arts (Museum Studies). Our first PhD candidate enrolled in 1999 and has since graduated. Other doctoral candidates are now enrolled and adding to the research capacity of the Programme.

Museum Studies follows the curriculum recommended by the International Council of Museums with additions which reflect New Zealand's distinctive interests.

Museum Studies @ Massey is New Zealand's oldest and most experienced programme of its type. Two decades' experience delivering Museum Studies qualifications in New Zealand provides a strong platform and resources to support student learning, including one of the most comprehensive museum studies library resources in Australasia.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Museum Studies considers professional development to be a cornerstone of reflective museum practice. Industry professionals often choose to take single papers for professional development, or study towards one of the qualifications.

To support colleagues in the field, Museum Studies hosts regular meetings for curators and directors from the Lower North Island.

Museum Studies would be pleased to discuss the professional development needs of museum staff with museum directors.

*"I encourage Canterbury Museum staff to enrol in the Museum Studies programme for their professional development. Museum Studies provides important opportunities for South Island extramural students to learn from experienced museum professionals and evaluate contemporary museum practice."*

Anthony Wright, Director, Canterbury Museum

## EXTRAMURAL STUDENTS

One of Massey University's strengths is its distance education (extramural) programme. Extramural students studying Museum Studies live throughout New Zealand and overseas. Museum Studies has worked with students living in Japan, Korea, the United Kingdom, Australia and the U.S.A.

Museum Studies staff are responsible for the development of curriculum, preparation of course materials, assessment and student liaison.

Extramural students can expect the following from the Programme:

- Study Guides with a weekly structured study programme
- Regular contact with Museum Studies staff by e-mail or phone
- Excellent Distance Library services connecting you to our outstanding Museum Studies resources
- Contact courses with museum staff, other students, museum practitioners and highly experienced Massey Museum Studies tutors. These courses promote inter-action with peers and encourage mentoring from academic staff and senior museum professionals
- Practical hands-on training as well as opportunities for team-based projects
- Opportunities to foster and model reflective museum practice

*The post-graduate diploma in Museum Studies has been a vital part of my education and in building a career in art museums. Its focus on practical as well as more theory-based elements has meant that my study is directly relevant to the work I do at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery.*

*Being able to study part-time and extramurally has meant that I have been able to work in a museum, gaining on-the-job knowledge that then feeds back into my studies. The diploma proves to current or prospective employers both an interest in all aspects of a museum's operation and a dedication to the industry. It has opened up many new opportunities for me.*

(Fiona Moorhead, Collections Online Co-ordinator, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth).

## Contact Courses

Contact courses are a compulsory component of the Museum Studies Programme. The courses are scheduled in the June/July break. Students can attend in Palmerston North or Christchurch.

These are some comments from Museum Studies students following contact courses:

*"It was an excellent learning and skill developing experience; an effective combination of tutoring and practical fieldwork. I appreciated the practical relevance of the contact course to my own gallery work. It was fantastic. I really appreciated the different methods of teaching. Making it interactive with other students made it that much more valuable".*

(Donna Denize-Crowhurst, formerly Education Officer, Auckland Art Gallery)

*"This course exceeded my expectations. Excellent leadership, group work and a variety of activities. We all seemed to have lots to contribute... The paper as a whole has been an incredible experience in terms of re-orienting my world view ..."*

(Jo Torr, Collection Manager, Te Papa).

*"We were very lucky with the group of people we had on this course. ...the mix of theory, practical, note-taking, group discussion and work was close to perfect... it has given me a much-needed boost ..."*

(Neil Phillips, Exhibitions Officer, Whanganui Regional Museum).



Lynn Campbell, Conservator, Christchurch Art Gallery (centre) with members of the Collection Management class 2009



# Museum Studies Programme Outline 2010

Paper Title	Extramural Students (P/T or F/T)
150.715 Taonga Tuku Iho	Readings, assignments, e-mail contact with tutors; 2 – day contact course
167.742 Collection Management	Readings, assignments, e-mail contact with tutors; 3 – day contact course
167.743 Museum Management	Readings, assignments, e-mail contact with tutors; 2 – day contact course
167.744 Museums and the Public	Readings, assignments, e-mail contact with tutors; 3 – day contact course
MA in Museum Studies	Requires B+ Grade Point Average across the four Diploma papers

The curriculum for the Postgraduate Diploma in Museum Studies is based on four core papers. Each of these papers requires 12.5 hours work per week through both semesters. Students who are working full-time are strongly advised to take no more than two papers concurrently.

**For full regulations please see the university calendar.**

## SCHEDULE OF CONTACT COURSES IN 2010

Paper	Palmerston North	Christchurch
150.715 – 2 days	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July
167.742 – 3 days	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July
167.743 – 2 days	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> and Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> and Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> July
167.744 – 3 days	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> – Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> July

*Contact courses are compulsory*

## INDUCTION PROGRAMMES 2010

**Christchurch:** Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February  
**Palmerston North:** Friday 5<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March  
*To be confirmed.*

These are highly recommended for all students, especially students new to the Museum Studies Programme. It provides an introduction to the University and its systems; Library resources; Student Learning Support, Extramural Services and Museum Studies.

(Right) Natasha McKinney, Curator Oceania, the British Museum. Candidate MA in Museum Studies.

## MUSEUM STUDIES PAPER OUTLINES 2010

*All papers are double semester papers.*

- **150.715 Taonga Tuku Iho: Heritage Aotearoa**  
**30 credits**

**Paper Co-ordinators:** Susan Abasa,  
Programme Co-ordinator, Museum and Heritage Studies.  
Margaret Forster,  
Lecturer, School of Māori Studies, Te Pūtahi-a-Toi,  
co-ordinates Semester One.

**Semester One:** Examines the importance of land, language, oral tradition, the marae, art and the Treaty of Waitangi in the conservation, maintenance, sustainability and revitalisation of Māori culture. This programme explores the nature of taonga tuku iho, Māori heritage maintenance strategies and the relationship between Māori and museums.

**Semester Two:** This programme covers two topics: Repatriation of cultural property and Government and Heritage. The Repatriation section focuses on: international declarations, repatriation legislation, treaty settlements, direct negotiation, and the development of indigenous cultural centres. Section two concentrates on the role of government in cultural heritage maintenance.

**Topics include:** exploring heritage legislation, the role of government ministries, national collecting institutions and other government funded heritage agencies.

Guest lecturers will also contribute to the programme.

Course readings have been prepared for all students. Highly recommended reading Horwood, M, and Wilson, C. (2008). Te Ara Tapu. Sacred Journeys. Whanganui Regional Museum Taonga Maori Collection. Auckland: Random House

### Assignments

Two research essays each worth 50%

**A detailed paper description can be found here.**



• **167.742 Collection Management** **30 credits**

Susan Abasa, Paper Co-ordinator:  
Programme Co-ordinator Museum and Heritage Studies

An examination of the following areas of museological theory and practice: material culture; private collecting; preventive conservation; collection management policy and practice; contemporary collection management issues including collection digitisation, contemporary collecting and the changing roles of curators and collection managers.

**Recommended Texts**

Buck, P., & Gilmore, J. (eds.). (1998). *The New Registration Methods*. Washington DC: American Association of Museums.

Pearce, S. (1998). *Collecting Contemporary Culture*. London: Sage Publications.

Simmons, J. (2006). *Things Great and Small: Collections Management Policies*. Washington DC: American Association of Museums.

**Assignments**

Essay / critical readings - 25%

Preventive Conservation Practicum and Written Test - 25%

Essay: Making Collections Accessible (25%)

Essay: Contemporary Collection Management Issues - 25%

**A detailed paper description can be found here**

• **167.743 Museum Management** **30 credits**

Susan Abasa, Paper Co-ordinator:  
Programme Co-ordinator Museum and Heritage Studies

Introduces the principles and practices of contemporary museum management. Semester One includes the following aspects: museums and organisational structures; ethics; governance; policy development; strategic planning and marketing. Semester Two introduces financial management; project management and personnel management. Practical skills in project management, budgeting, grant writing, reports and presentations will be taught. Emphasis is given to case studies and examples from museum practice.

**Textbooks**

Genoways, H. and Ireland, L. (2003). *Museum Administration. An Introduction*. Walnut Creek: Alta Mira Press.

Lord, B. and G. (2001). *The Manual of Museum Management*. London: AltaMira Press.

**Assignments**

Annotated bibliography and ethics (20%)

Governance essay (30%)

Buildings / Budget exercise (25%)

Grant Application (25%)

**A detailed paper description can be found here.**



• **167.744 Museums and the Public** **30 credits**

Susan Abasa, Paper Co-ordinator:  
Programme Co-ordinator Museum and Heritage Studies

This paper is an introduction to the philosophy, strategies and practical processes of effectively interpreting and communicating museum programmes for a variety of audiences. The paper examines communication methods and styles; visitor studies; programme evaluation; exhibition development and practice, and museum education.

*Museums and the Public* is about museums, communities and programmes, and the relationships between all three. The paper provides opportunities to engage directly with a range of practical concerns related to visitor studies, the implementation of exhibitions and the creation and analysis of learning experiences in museums. Considerable emphasis is placed on case studies and the real-life situations faced by museums.

**Recommended Texts**

Karp, I., & Lavine, S. (eds.). (1991). *Exhibiting Cultures. The Poetics and Politics of Museum Display*. Washington DC: Smithsonian Institution Press.

Karp, I., Kreamer, C., & Lavine, S. (eds.). (1992). *Museums and Communities. The Politics of Public Culture*. Washington DC: Smithsonian Institution Press.

Dean, D. (1993). *Museum Exhibitions: Theory and Practice*. London: Routledge.

Hooper-Greenhill, E. (1999). *Museums and the Interpretation of Visual Culture*. London: Routledge.

**Assignments**

**Semester 1:** Research project (40%) and oral presentation at contact course (10%)

**Semester 2:** Exhibition project /Structured essay (50%)

**A detailed paper description can be found here.**

• **167.761 Special Topic** **30 credits**

Students who have completed a minimum of three years full-time work in museums or related institutions may take a Special Topic. Please contact the Programme Co-ordinator, Susan Abasa, prior to enrolling.

An approved 700 level paper from another discipline may be taken.

Please contact the Programme Co-ordinator prior to enrolment.

## Master of Arts in Museum Studies

Students continuing to the Master of Arts (Museum Studies) by papers or thesis will have completed the four papers for the Postgraduate Diploma and attained a Grade Point Average of B+.

MA students may select papers totalling 120 points from the list below:

167.816	Thesis (part a)		
167.817	Thesis (part b)	Part a and b	(120 credits)
167.790	Advanced Research Practicum		(60 credits)
167.796	Dissertation		(60 credits)
167.899	Thesis		(120 credits)

• **167.890 Advanced Research Practicum** **60 credits**

A twenty week full-time internship at an approved museum or other heritage organisation. Students wishing to enrol in this paper should contact the Programme Co-ordinator. This paper is available to people currently employed in a museum if satisfactory arrangements can be negotiated with your museum director.

Enrolment requires approval of the Head of School.

• **167.896 Dissertation** **60 credits**

A Dissertation proposal must be submitted by 1 April in the year of enrolment and approved by the Head of School. A Dissertation of not more than 20,000 words must be submitted by 10 October in the year of enrolment.

Enrolment requires approval of the Head of School.

• **167.899 Thesis** **120 credits**

Enrolment requires approval of the Head of School.

A student wishing to enrol in the Thesis should advise the Programme Co-ordinator in writing before 22 January in the year of enrolment. Students may enrol part-time and complete the Thesis over two years. A Thesis of 30,000 words will be submitted. A Thesis Proposal must be submitted before 1 April in the year of enrolment and approved by the Head of School.

Selection of Thesis Supervisor should be discussed with the Programme Co-ordinator. A local Supervisor may also be arranged if the student is not studying full-time on campus.

For enquiries for Masters or PhD study please contact Susan Abasa



## SOME RECENT THESIS TOPICS IN MUSEUM STUDIES ARE:

### PhD

Butts, D.J. (2003). Māori and museums. The politics of indigenous recognition.

### Masterates

Lambert, S. (2009). Engaging Practices: re-thinking narrative exhibition development in light of narrative scholarship. MA.

Carroll, R. (2008). The Acquisition of the Partington Collection by Whanganui Regional Museum. MA.

Hansen, P. (2003). The Immaculate Perception Project: Exhibition creation and reception in a New Zealand regional art museum. M.Phil.

Evans, R. (2002). Constructing Identity: Collecting Oceanic Art/Artefacts in New Zealand. MA

Smith, D.C.P. (2003). *City Revealed: The process and politics of exhibition development.* MA (1st Class Hons.) Awarded Keith Thomson Prize for Research in Museum Studies.

White, A. (2006). Māori curatorship at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki 1998-2001. MA (1st. Class Hons). Awarded Keith Thomson Prize for Research in Museum Studies.

**Theses are available from Massey University Library.**

*"Doing a Master's in Museum Studies looks good on my C.V, but more than that, the process helped me develop as a scholar and a practitioner. My MA thesis is a statement about theory and practice, which has become my professional guidebook. It was a daunting task, but the supervision was supportive and wisely balanced to enable me work out my own answers."*

Dan Smith, Curator, Bolton Museums, Art Gallery and Aquarium, Manchester, UK.



*"As Director of a regional museum and art gallery I place a great value on the programmes offered by Museum Studies Department of Massey University. We have worked with graduates from the Programme and have found that the training and skills acquired have contributed significantly to our organisation."*

*This Programme is very forward looking and challenging of the wider sector. Particular strengths include an emphasis on contemporary practice, a bicultural focus, and teaching staff with a solid grounding in theoretical issues overlaid with practical experience within the wider art and heritage sector."*

Dr. Monty Soutar.

Former Director, Tairāwhiti Museum, Gisborne. Board Member, New Zealand Historic Places Trust. Member Waitangi Tribunal

## Enrolment Process

If you wish to enrol in any Museum Studies papers, please telephone 0800 MASSEY to request an enrolment pack. Enrolments for all students **close on 22 January**. We strongly urge you to enrol as early as possible. The first semester commences in late February. The academic year finishes in late October / early November.

Please remember to indicate that you are enrolling as an extramural student.

All new students, and those wishing to progress to the MA in Museum Studies must first contact the Programme Co-ordinator, Museum and Heritage Studies. S.F. Abasa@massey.ac.nz

### ENROLMENT CHECKLIST

#### Enrol early

1. Read this handbook carefully
2. Contact Museum Studies staff to discuss any queries related to the academic programme. (Contact details are listed on page 2)
3. Call 0800 MASSEY and request an Enrolment Pack. You should receive a Pack in 7 days. If you do not receive the Enrolment Pack contact the Contact Centre immediately - 0800 MASSEY. The Pack can also be downloaded from the Massey Web Site
4. Make sure that you have the appropriate documentation required for enrolment. If you are not a Massey graduate you will have to supply an official transcript of your academic record.
5. Complete and submit the Application for Admission to Postgraduate Study form
6. E-mail Museum Studies to let us know that you have begun the enrolment process: include your name, phone number and postal address
7. Enrolment procedures take at least 4 to 6 weeks, provided that you have all supporting documentation

(left) Dan Smith, Curator – Social History, Bolton Museum, U.K.