KONS4511 – History and Theory of Conservation  
Autumn 2014  
Course tutor: Noëlle Streeton  

NB  
All texts referred to in this pensum list are included in the Compendium, available from Akademica, apart from those considered to be optional.  
The pensum reading is not divided equally throughout the course. Students are encouraged to complete the reading in advance of lectures.  

LECTURE 1  
The history of conservation/restoration: an overview of ideas and concepts  

Antiquity to the early twentieth century  

Optional (external to pensum):  
LECTURE 2

Formative debates in the nineteenth century


Optional (external to pensum):

LECTURE 3
Scientific research and museum objects

What can be gained?


Science, archaeology and the study of paint


Early cleaning controversies


LECTURE 4
From craftsman to conservator: catalysts and frameworks for multi-disciplinary training

Catalysts: Europe at war

Theoretical frameworks

Training and education
LECTURE 5
Conservation standards: conventions, charters and codes of ethics

Overview


Charters and guidelines


Ethics in practice

LECTURE 6
Ethics and problems in contemporary conservation practice


Restoration: an acceptable concept?


Reversibility


Original intent


Collections


LECTURE 7
ArtWatch and critics of conservation

We will watch and discuss the following film:
LECTURE 8
More cleaning controversies and their implications


Case studies:

**The Shroud of Turin:** Meacham, William, ‘The “restoration” of the Turin Shroud: a conservation and scientific disaster’, *E-conservation*, the online magazine 13 (February 2010), 28–42. Available at [http://www.e-conservationline.com/content/view/862/](http://www.e-conservationline.com/content/view/862/)


LECTURE 9
Ethical considerations in archaeological conservation
Guest lecturer: Douwtje van der Meulen


**LECTURE 10**

**Dilemmas and decision-making**

**Dead or Alive? Preserving heavily damaged or heavily restored objects**


**Dilemmas and decision-making**


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http://www.jstor.org/stable/1504963

http://www.jstor.org/stable/777465

http://www.jstor.org/stable/3179471

http://www.encore-edu.org/ENCoREConstitution.html

http://www.jstor.org/stable/3180083