Learners

Our courses are designed for heritage professionals working in conflict-affected countries, in roles such as archaeologists, museum curators and workers, staff of both governmental and non-governmental organisations, consultants and academics.

About Us

The University of Leicester is a world-leading centre for heritage expertise. Our departments of Archaeology and Ancient History, Museum Studies, and History are all centres of excellence in their respective fields. Our staff have wide-ranging regional expertise and are currently engaged in heritage programmes across four continents: Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas.

The Cultural Heritage and Peacebuilding (CHaP) project, based in the department of Archaeology and Ancient History at Leicester, provides a focus for engagement between academics and practitioners working on cultural heritage and conflict. The project seeks to find ways of maximising the potential positive impacts of heritage in conflict-affected environment in terms of peacebuilding, reconciliation, and development.

International Alert is a leading organisation in the design and delivery of specialised training for professionals engaged in peacebuilding, state building and development in conflict-affected and fragile countries. International Alert has a dedicated team of trainers with direct peacebuilding, development and conflict sensitivity experience. These trainers are able to draw on a broad range of specific thematic expertise from across the organisation and capture learning from field work in over 20 countries.

Find out more

Dr Naoise MacSweeney nm251@leicester.ac.uk
Dr Jasper Chalcraft jc526@leicester.ac.uk
\textbf{Conflict Sensitivity}

Cultural heritage often plays a crucial role in conflict dynamics. Conflict sensitivity is therefore an essential skill for heritage professionals, yet it is often overlooked in standard training and development courses.

In many conflict-affected countries, there is a wealth of cultural heritage that has the potential to act as a focus for community-building, reconciliation, and national cohesion. The work of heritage professionals can play a significant role in rebuilding countries affected by conflict.

In partnership with peacebuilding NGO International Alert, we provide training about the key aspects of conflict sensitivity for heritage professionals working in conflict-affected countries, delivered by our world-leading academics who are at the forefront of heritage research.

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\textbf{The course}

\textbf{Our courses provide:}

\begin{itemize}
  \item A greater understanding of heritage and its socio-political significance
  \item In-depth learning about the concepts, principles and tools of conflict sensitivity
  \item The tools required by learners to integrate their learning into their professional practice
  \item Networking opportunities to explore and discuss heritage issues in a broader international context
  \item Sharing of best practice with other heritage practitioners
  \item The ability to plan for conflict sensitive site management strategies and policies
\end{itemize}

Learners will be equipped with the skills and confidence to engage with conflict actors, local communities, the international community and the wider public to make conflict sensitivity an integral part of heritage work.

\textbf{Workshop structure}

Our bespoke programmes are designed and delivered by staff from the University of Leicester’s Cultural Heritage and Peacebuilding project in partnership with professional trainers from International Alert. Our interactive courses are tailored to the individual needs of our clients, from half day training sessions through to multiple-day residential programmes, and are delivered in locations convenient for our participants.

Our courses consist of components selected and ordered to meet the specific needs of the participants. These components may include workshops, case studies, role play, object handling and site visits. As our courses are bespoke we can include a variety of other activities to meet your needs – please contact us to find out more.