University of Amsterdam

Dual Master’s in Media Studies
Preservation and Presentation of the Moving Image

uva.nl/ma-pp-moving-image
‘I always feel very proud when I see so many former students becoming valued professionals and colleagues in museums, archives and universities all around the globe.’

Moving images and sound are part of our most cherished cultural heritage. They capture time and place, and shape memory and history. They are also fleeting: they unfold in time, and are affected by time. Environmental factors, material decomposition, but increasingly also technological obsolescence threaten their long-term accessibility. In the dual Master’s in Preservation and Presentation of the Moving Image, we consider how we can deal with such threats. How can we preserve audiovisual materials for future generations? How do we present historical, but also contemporary moving images, as sources of information, works of art, media (historical) phenomena, or objects of entertainment?

The programme addresses these questions in a combination of taught lectures and seminars, excursions, and a work placement in the second year. During your internship, you take part in a project at an institute in the fields of audiovisual archiving and/or presentation, in the Netherlands or abroad.
Career prospects
Graduates can critically assess developments in the fields of archiving, preservation and presentation of media collections. They understand how they are organised, and how their practices tie in with those in related fields (e.g. information archiving, or the preservation and presentation of contemporary art collections). As a graduate, you are familiar with the successive phases in established workflows, and you know which factors are considered in decision-making processes. You have made professional contacts that can help you gain entry to:

- Positions as collection managers, (digital) preservationists or information specialists in film, television and mixed-media archives, centres for time-based arts, or special collections departments in libraries;
- Jobs as programmers for specialist theatres or festivals, exhibition curators, or distribution or online access specialists;

Spotlight on a course

This is Film!
In this 12 ECTS elective course, we analyse a number of international film restoration and presentation projects, in discussion with international guests (the curators, restorers or other film heritage specialists involved). We consider them from the perspective of technology and institutional context, but also in terms of their relation to specific film and heritage debates. Students contribute to various programmes at the Eye Film-museum, e.g. by introducing guests during public programmes and helping to organise the Eye International Conference (annual).
• PhD programmes in film and heritage studies, and research positions in a range of cultural institutions.

Entry requirements
The Master’s in Preservation and Presentation of the Moving Image is open for application to students with a Bachelor’s degree in the humanities or social sciences from an accredited university, with a minimum of 60 ECTS credits (in most cases, the equivalent of one year of academic studies) in the field of media history and theory, art history and theory and/or library or archival studies modules.
For more information, please check: uva.nl/ma-pp-moving-image

Application and admission