









Master of Arts Interdisciplinary Studies (MAIS) 752

Special Topics Graduate Seminar—Dialogues in Landscape and Heritage Sustainability (Revision 9)

Status:	Replaced with new revision, see the course listing  for the current revision 
Delivery mode:	Grouped study 
Credits:	3
Area of study:	Arts
Prerequisites:	None
Precluded:	None
Faculty:	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences 
Notes:	Focus Areas: Heritage and Social History  ; Global Change 

Overview

This Special Topics Graduate Seminar course introduces students to aspects of historic, current, and future thinking on heritage, landscape, and sustainable development goals through a series of dialogues with established leaders in the field. The class discussions are enriched by the insights and perspectives of highly experienced professionals who have held key positions in international organizations, their career paths, and what they see as priorities, emerging trends, and key challenges.

The course comprises directed readings aligned with a series of live online seminars with senior international actors in the fields of landscape and heritage. The course aims to engage students in in-depth dialogues on the roles, challenges, and current thinking shaping the sector in the twenty-first century. Advocated by various international bodies, the principles that culture and cultural heritage represent—namely a co-authored, co-owned public resource (Faro Convention) and the fourth pillar of sustainable development—have been game-changers in the sector, affecting professional practice at all levels. Drawing from the experiences of senior professionals in the field, this course will explore and critique elements of the international landscape and heritage infrastructure, overarching paradigms, and live debates and issues.

The synchronous virtual seminars (which take place at several-week intervals) are supported by directed readings and discussion forums and sessions. Students will join the seminars along with students in the MA in Landscape, Archaeology, and Heritage program at the University of Galway (Ireland).

This course is designed for students who are interested in the Canadian and international theoretical frameworks, perspectives, and professional practices involving heritage and landscapes. It is also intended for those who want to explore career paths in the field and gain insight into possible work-integrated learning (WIL) opportunities.

Outline

The course consists of four units on important issues and topics in landscapes, heritage, and sustainability, as well as five synchronous (live) virtual sessions with guest speakers, each of whom holds key positions in international organizations. The tentative date for each virtual session is included below.

- Synchronous Virtual Session 1: Course Introductory Session: With Dr. Shabnam Inanloo Dailoo (Associate Professor & Director, Heritage Resources Management, Athabasca University) and Mr. Conor Newman (Senior lecturer, University of Galway, Ireland). January 10, 2024, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am MST.
- **Unit 1: Landscapes and Heritage** provides a framework for the study of the notion of landscape as a heritage place.
 - Synchronous Virtual Session 2: International Guest Speaker Presentation 1: With Mr. Graham Fairclough (Principal Research Associate at New Castle University, researcher and policy advisor on heritage and landscape, UK). January 24, 2024, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am MST.
- **Unit 2: Cultural Landscapes** deals with the international frameworks involving cultural landscapes and culture–nature interconnectedness.
 - Synchronous Virtual Session 3: International Guest Speaker Presentation 2: With Dr. Ana Schoebel (Textile Conservator, Institute of Spanish Cultural Heritage, Ministry of Culture, Spain; former Programme Manager for European Cultural Heritage Strategy for 21st century, Culture and Heritage Division, Council of Europe). February 14, 2024, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am MST.
- **Unit 3: Landscapes, Heritage, and Sustainability** examines debates about sustainability and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within the context of cultural landscapes and discusses ways in which to link landscape/heritage conservation with the sustainable-development movement globally.
 - Synchronous Virtual Session 4: International Guest Speaker Presentation 3: With Mr. Gabriel Caballero (ICOMOS International Focal Point for the Sustainable Development Goals for 2021–2023, landscape architect and independent world-heritage specialist, The Philippines). March 13, 2024, from 8:00 am to 10:00 am MST.
- **Unit 4: Landscapes and Heritage Policies** is concerned with cultural landscape as a holistic approach in addressing societal needs and global challenges, and achieving integrated culture–nature solutions.
 - Synchronous Virtual Session 5: International Guest Speaker Presentation 4: With Dr. Christina Cameron, Professor Emeritus, Canada Research Chair in Built Heritage, University of Montreal. April 3, 2024, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am MST.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Critically assess international infrastructure of landscape and heritage policy and practice, and discuss their implications within national and local contexts.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the connectivity between landscape, heritage, and sustainability.
- Discuss current debates in landscape and heritage sustainability.
- Gain advanced professional insights through discussions with international experts in the field and be more prepared for a career in the heritage field.

Evaluation





To receive credit for MAIS 752, you must participate in the online discussion activities, successfully complete the assignments, attend the five synchronous virtual meetings, and achieve a final mark of at least **C- (60 percent)** [↗](#).

Activity	Weight
Online Participation: Readings Discussion Forums (ongoing)	15%
Online Participation: Guest-Speaker Presentations Discussion Forums (ongoing)	15%
Moderation of an Online Discussion Forum	15%
Reflection Essays on Guest Speaker Presentations (4 x 5%)	20%
Term Paper Outline and Preliminary Bibliography	5%
Term Paper (Final Version)	30%
Total	100%

Materials

All materials, including a Course Information manual, required readings, and a Study Guide, will be available online through the course site. Teleconferencing information for the synchronous virtual sessions will be provided closer to the presentation dates.

Important links

- › [Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies](#) 
- › [Focus Areas](#) 
- › [Courses](#) 
- › [Fees and Funding](#) 

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

Opened in Revision 9, January 2, 2024

Updated February 6, 2024

View [previous revision](#) 
