POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
IN ART CRIME AND
CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION

ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH
INTO CRIMES AGAINST ART

/ ARCA
WELCOME

www.artcrimeresearch.org

2018 Program Dates: May 25-Aug 8, 2018
Housing Checkout: August 9-10, 2018
Thesis due: November 15, 2018
Location: Amelia, Italy
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Program Overview and Invitation to Apply

The Association for Research into Crimes against Art (ARCA) warmly invites applications to its tenth annual postgraduate certificate program in the study of art crime and cultural heritage protection.

This academically-intensive eleven course program provides in-depth, postgraduate level instruction in important theoretical and practical elements related to art and heritage crime. By examining art crime’s interconnected world, students experience an integrated curriculum in an interactive, participatory setting. The program’s courses include comprehensive multidisciplinary lectures, interactive classroom-based discussions and presentations, as well as field classes that serve as the backdrop for exploring art crime, its nature, and its impact.

From the outset of participation in the ARCA postgraduate certificate program, students are encouraged and challenged to develop their scholarly interests and to evolve as independent thinkers and researchers while they themselves contribute to the theoretical discourse. Each course associated with the program has been selected to underscore the value of, and necessity for, a longitudinal multidisciplinary approach to the study of criminal behavior in the art world as well as its trends and motivating factors.

The program courses explore a variety of interrelated subjects such as:

- the international art market and its associated risk
- art crime and its prevalence
- transnational crime, illicit trafficking and the interface between legal and illegal actors
- art crime and plunder during symmetric and asymmetric conflicts
- art and cultural heritage law, policy, and implementation
- criminological theories and their application to the study of art crime
- the finer points of insuring fine arts and fine art underwriting
- crime prevention and security management in museums
- art crime policing and investigation
- art forgery motives and methods
- the provenance of works of art and their historical record of ownership
- antiquities and identity
The Association for Research into Crimes against Art (ARCA) is an international, nongovernmental organization that works to promote scholarly research in the study of art crime and cultural heritage protection. The first organization of its type, ARCA aims to bridge the gap between the practical and theoretical by fostering collaboration between all diverse and relevant entities: foreign and domestic law enforcement officials, security consultants, academics, lawyers, archaeologists, insurance specialists, criminologists, art historians, conservators, and other interested parties who’s interests and professions overlap with, or are impacted by, art and heritage crime.

At the most basic level, ARCA seeks to identify emerging and under-examined trends related to art crime and to develop strategies that deter crimes and advocate for the responsible stewardship of our collective artistic and archaeological heritage. ARCA advances this mission through its short and long-model professional development programs, as well as through its illicit trafficking and art crime research.

It is the Association’s intent to incrementally shift the values of contemporary society to ensure greater protection of the world’s art and cultural heritage. To accomplish this, ARCA supports and encourages knowledge transfer between scholars and allied professionals in the fields of law, criminal justice, museum studies, and cultural resource management at the national and international level and sponsors a range of conferences and lectures, targeted fellowships, and capacity building initiatives designed to support the vital work of these stakeholders.

Similarly, ARCA works to improve the collective relationship with the past by leveraging the knowledge and influence of professionals, patrons, and the public in protecting the world’s common artistic patrimony. It also produces the Journal of Art Crime, an interdisciplinary and international peer reviewed journal of scholarly work in art crime research that is published two times per year.

ARCA’s Postgraduate Certificate Program has much to offer potential students in a number of relevant fields, including art policing, art and museum security, art and heritage law, art insurance and risk management, museum and curatorial studies, art conservation, and other professional occupations working closely with artistic heritage and/or the art market. Students enroll in order to meet and work with international experts who are on the forefront of this dynamic and evolving field. Past attendees have included professionals actively involved in the field as well as post-graduate students eager to gain a comprehensive multidisciplinary foundation within this specialized area of study before or while pursuing advanced degrees at the Masters or Doctorate level.

ARCA’s postgraduate program is greatly enriched by the comparative perspective of a multinational student body. In the past nine years the program has trained students from 32 different countries, bringing diversity into the classroom and a range of international experiences and perspectives to course discussions.
Program Location

Italy is often ranked the second-most popular country for foreign study, which means finding a “road less traveled” can be challenging. ARCA wanted a destination for its postgraduate program that allowed students to form a very personal connection to the local people and to absorb the essence of Italy, while still being able to focus intently on academic studies.

Since its founding in 2009, ARCA’s postgraduate certificate program has been hosted in the centro storico of Amelia, an hour or so away from the bustle of Rome. The 14th-century Franciscan Boccarini cloister provides an ideal setting to inspire creative, intellectual, and personal development. Nestled in the rolling hills of central Umbria, Amelia is known for its peaceful surroundings and friendly, authentic small-town atmosphere. Here students may experience Italian culture unspoiled by mass tourism, with everything one would expect from an ancient hillside town surrounded by beautiful scenery. In Amelia, students experience Italy’s breadbasket of tastes while becoming part of the fabric of the community, from family-owned cafes and restaurants to local alimentari (food shops) with freshly rolled pasta, morning-fresh cheeses, and locally sourced wines and delicacies.

From Amelia to:

Orvieto - 45 mins
Rome - 1 hour
Assisi - 1 hour
Florence - 2 hours
Pisa - 3 hours
Naples - 3 hours
Program Size and Eligibility

Eligibility for admission to the ARCA program is restricted to postgraduate students. Applicants must demonstrate that they have an undergraduate or postgraduate degree, certificate, or the equivalent level of relevant work experience. Participants are selected each year based on a careful assessment of academic preparation and performance, previous professional achievement as well as intellectual curiosity and self-discipline. Each of these characteristics and traits are key indicators of suitability for intensive study and research in this field.

To foster an intimate and supportive relationship between students and lecturers, ARCA limits the program’s annual enrollment to a small number of students — typically between 20 and 30 participants annually. By keeping the program census small, ARCA seeks to facilitate lasting bonds between professors and students, while fostering an open environment that allows for closer and dynamic interaction.

**Program Calendar**

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<th>Event</th>
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<td>December 30, 2017</td>
<td>Early Application Deadline</td>
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<td>January 30, 2018</td>
<td>General Application Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 30, 2018</td>
<td>Late Application Deadline (subject to census availability)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 01, 2018</td>
<td>Advance Reading Assigned</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25, 2018</td>
<td>Students Arrive in Amelia</td>
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<td>May 26 and 27, 2018</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 28, 2018</td>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 22 - 24, 2018</td>
<td>9th Annual International Art Crime Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 08, 2018</td>
<td>Certificate Courses Conclude</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 09 - 10, 2018</td>
<td>Students Housing Check-out*</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 15, 2018</td>
<td>Dissertation Submission Deadline</td>
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*Some students stay longer in Amelia to relax a few days after the program in order to participate in the August Palio dei Colombi, Notte Bianca and Ferragosto festivities.
Courses and Faculty*

Subject to final confirmation in February 2018, the following courses are slated for the 2018 program. Please note that course sequencing, specific courses and/or professors may be subject to change.

The International Art Market and Associated Risk
Ivan Macquisten  
Director, ImacQ,  
Art Market Advisor to the UK’s All Party Parliamentary Group on Cultural Heritage  
Former Editor Antiques Trade Gazette

Provenance Research, Theory and Practice
Marc J. Masurovsky  
Co-founder, Holocaust Art Restitution Project  
Chair, Working Group on Nazi-Confiscated Art, Advisory Council, European Shoah Legacy Institute (ESLI)

Art and Heritage Law
Dr. Duncan Chappell, Lawyer and Criminologist  
Honorary Professor in the Faculty of Law at the University of Sydney  
Member, Australian National Cultural Heritage Committee  
Former Chair of the International Advisory Board of the Australian Research Council’s Center of Excellence in Policing and Security  
Former Director of the Australian Institute of Criminology (1987-1994)

Practical Approaches to Safeguarding Culture: Security Measures and Risk Assessment for Museums and Cultural Heritage Sites
Dick Drent, Museum Security Expert, Law Enforcement and National Security Expert  
Founding Director, Omnirisk  
Associate Director, SoSecure International  
Associate Director, Holland Integrity Group  
Corporate Security Manager, Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (retired)

Analyzing Illicit Trafficking and the Theft of Works of Art: An Italian Perspective (to be confirmed)
Luogotenente Fabrizio Rossi, Italian Comando Carabinieri per la Tutela del Patrimonio Culturale (Retired)  
Previously seconded to the Works of Art Unit, INTERPOL, Lyon  
Lecturer and advisor, ARCA

How to Analyze Art Crimes Empirically
Marc Balcells, Criminologist  
Professor, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya  
Associate, Universitat Pompeu Fabra  
with  
Edgar Tijhuis, Criminologist  
ARCA Trustee  
Acting Academic Director, ARCA

Insurance Claims and the Art Trade
Dorit Straus  
Insurance Industry Consultant, Art Recovery Group PLC  
Vice President and Worldwide Specialty Fine Art Manager for Chubb & Son, a division of Federal Insurance Company (retired)

The High Stakes World of Art Policing, Protection and Investigation
Richard Ellis, Private Investigator, Asset Recovery and Investigation  
Detective and Founder, Metropolitan Police, New Scotland Yard Art and Antiques Squad (retired)  
Director, Art Management Group

The Minds, Motives and Methods of Master Forgers and Thieves
Dr. Noah Charney, Author, Journalist, Art History and Criminology Lecturer, ARCA Founding Director  
Adjunct Professor, University of Ljubljana

Antiquities and Identity
Dr. Valerie Higgins, Archaeologist  
Associate Professor of Archaeology  
Program Director MA Sustainable Cultural Heritage

Insurance Claims and the Art Trade
Dorit Straus  
Insurance Industry Consultant, Art Recovery Group PLC  
Vice President and Worldwide Specialty Fine Art Manager for Chubb & Son, a division of Federal Insurance Company (retired)

The High Stakes World of Art Policing, Protection and Investigation
Richard Ellis, Private Investigator, Asset Recovery and Investigation  
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Director, Art Management Group

The Minds, Motives and Methods of Master Forgers and Thieves
Dr. Noah Charney, Author, Journalist, Art History and Criminology Lecturer, ARCA Founding Director  
Adjunct Professor, University of Ljubljana

Art Crime in War
Judge Arthur Tompkins  
District Court Judge, Wellington, New Zealand  
Co-Founder, New Zealand Art Crime Research Trust  
Author, Plundering Beauty: A History of Art Crime in War

*Contingent on funding and availability ARCA periodically invites distinguished scholars and essayists to participate as guest lecturers and visiting experts. The presence of these additional heritage professionals in Amelia during the summer contributes greatly to the intellectual diversity of the postgraduate program.
Visiting Scholars have included:

**Stefano Alessandrini**, Consultant to the Avvocatura dello Stato, Italy and the Ministero per i Beni Culturali e Ambientali – Rome

**Dr. Neil Brodie**, Senior Research Fellow on the Endangered Archaeology of the Middle East and North Africa (EAMENA) project at the University of Oxford

**Morgan Belzic**, French historian, archaeologist, and illicit trafficking researcher of the École Pratique des Hautes Études in Paris

**Dr. Susan Douglas**, Professor and Art Historian at the University of Guelph

**Dr. Sam Hardy**, Adjunct Professor and Conflict Antiquities Research Archaeologist

**Fabio Isman**, Investigative Reporter and Journalist covering Antiquities and Cultural Heritage Protection

**Dr. Laurie Rush**, Cultural Resource Manager, U.S. Army Cultural Research Center, Installation Management Command (IMCOM)

**Dr. Larry Rothfield**, co-founder and former director of the Cultural Policy Center at the University of Chicago, and author of the book, The Rape of Mesopotamia.

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**Program Format and Schedule**

The ARCA Postgraduate Program adheres to standards established by American and European institutions of higher education in terms of length, content, and the academic intensity of coursework. Taught by specialists in their respective fields, the program consists of eleven courses and includes approximately 25 lecture hours per week over the course of 11 weeks. This format allows students to complete the ARCA postgraduate certificate in one summer of intensive study. A week-long break during the summer program is also factored in to the schedule.

The program’s configuration facilitates both student and allied professional enrollment, ensuring that both groups may undertake this certificate program during summer holidays or between academic advanced degrees, or during a brief sabbatical or a hiatus from work. Typically, students will participate in one or two courses per week with morning and afternoon lectures running from 10:30 to 13:00 and 15:00 to 17:30, Monday through Friday. There are also occasional weekend classes.

ARCA’s study facilities are situated within the 14th century Franciscan Boccarini college that houses Amelia’s Biblioteca Comunale L.Lama. There, students have access to classrooms, study tables, and limited free Wi-Fi, as well as ARCA’s specialized book collection of reliable reference material that may be used in the library or checked out for use at home. The ARCA library and study space is open to students from 9:00 until 19:00 Monday through Friday.

“The ARCA program was a unique opportunity to study the many facets of art crime affecting the current art market. The lecturing professors and industry experts were exceptional and the courses provided me with an invaluable network of contacts.”

Olivia Sladen ’09
The culmination of the academic program is the completion of a final thesis, submitted by each student in late autumn after the successful completion of the onsite courses. The completion of this written body of work serves as the capstone to the postgraduate certificate program and demonstrates the student’s ability to conduct independent scholarly research, data collection and analysis in order to make a significant contribution to the research literature in the field of art crime.

Onsite Coursework

Students are required to successfully complete ten courses while in residence. Completion of coursework may differ per course, and may include evaluative assignments in the form of tests, projects, presentations, and papers. Some courses, such as Art Law, will have heavier course reading requirements than others. In these cases, students may be assigned readings to be completed before arriving in Amelia. In addition, once in Amelia, students are required to complete all scheduled reading assignments before coming to class each day, so that they may actively participate in class discussions. Given the intensive nature of the courses and the program’s participatory format, attendance and active participation in class is essential.

Offsite Assignment

The culmination of the academic program is the completion of a final thesis, submitted by each student in late autumn after the successful completion of the onsite courses. The completion of this written body of work serves as the capstone to the postgraduate certificate program and demonstrates the student’s ability to conduct independent scholarly research, data collection and analysis in order to make a significant contribution to the research literature in the field of art crime.

Before writing the thesis, it is important to carefully choose the focus of the research project. Many students develop their thesis topics from subjects discussed or ideas stemming from their ARCA courses. Others fashion their topics on the basis of longstanding personal or professional interests and pursuits in specific subject areas related to art crime and cultural property protection.

Integral to the thesis process is the opportunity for students to work with the program’s academic director and an assigned thesis advisor who helps shape the student’s thesis and oversees the project from inception through final submission. The thesis advisory team ensures that the student’s work meets ARCA’s standards for submission.

As the final element necessary before granting ARCA’s professional development certificate, the thesis should exhibit understanding, reflection, and development of a central theme within the approved subject area. It should analyze and consider various information sources from a critical viewpoint and be written in accordance with prevailing research ethics. This process will allow the student to sharpen his or her analytical skills while acquiring a deeper understanding of the theoretical and/or empirical possibilities and challenges within the chosen topic area.

After satisfactory completion of the program coursework, and once a final version of the thesis has been submitted and approved, the student is awarded the ARCA Certificate in Art Crime and Cultural Heritage Protection.
Field Classes

Each year, ARCA organizes two or more field classes that serve to demonstrate material presented and discussed in classroom lectures. Venues visited in recent years have included the Etruscan necropolis of Banditaccia at Cerveteri, as well as various national and private museums in Lazio, Tuscany and Campania. Several of these sites are listed as Unesco World Heritage sites and have been subject to looting and destruction.

In 2017 the field class to the necropolis Banditaccia was led by Italian archaeologist and recovery consultant to Italy’s Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, Stefano Alessandrini. Known in ancient times as Caere, Cerveteri is famous for its important Etruscan necropolies, such as the Banditaccia. This massive ancient burial complex was looted extensively in the 1970s and gained notoriety as the point of origin for the Metropolitan Museum’s former ‘hot pot’, the Euphronios Krater. This object has since been repatriated to Italy and is now on display at the Cerveteri Museum. While a portion of the Banditaccia necropolis is well protected, much of the outlying areas remain at risk, and ARCA students have witnessed evidence of fresh looting pits outside the protected area of the archaeological preserve.

Dick Drent, former Security Director for the Van Gogh Museum, teaches our second field class which is usually conducted in a museum or archaeological site, where, for practice and analysis, students are introduced to the core qualitative techniques and methodologies of museum security and protection and Red Teaming.

In the past ARCA students have also opted to undertake optional docent-led trips to Ostia Antica, Pompeii and Oplontis arranged by ARCA’s academic director. These optional weekend field classes are subject to sufficient interest and center on the historical evolution of the archaeological preservation movement in Italy and contrast present and past preservation approaches. These heritage visits further serve to illuminate how well-visited sites remain vulnerable to predation and underscore the fragility of complex cultural heritage sites whose very popularity put them further at risk.
Art Crime Conference in Amelia

Each year during the summer programming ARCA hosts its annual interdisciplinary Art Crime conference in Amelia. Providing an arena for intellectual and professional exchange, this international conference highlights ARCA’s mission and serves as a forum that aims to facilitate a critical appraisal of the protection of art and heritage worldwide. Bringing together expert scholars, law enforcement authorities, art professionals, participants in ARCA’s postgraduate certificate program, and the general public, attendees will have the opportunity to examine contemporary issues of common concern in this important field.

Past speakers include:

Vernon Rapley and Dick Ellis (former heads of Scotland Yard’s Arts and Antiques Unit) - Francesco Rutelli (former Italian Minister of Culture and Mayor of Rome) - Stefano Alessandri, Neil Brodie, Sam Hardy (archaeologists) - General Giovanni Pastore (former Vice-Commandant of the Carabinieri TPC, Division for the Protection of Cultural Heritage) - Howard Spieglar, Ken Polk (art law specialists) - Michael Will (EUROPOL) - Paolo Giorgio Ferri, (ret) Italian Prosecutor - Toby Bull (Hong Kong Police) - Jason Felch, Peter Watson (award-winning journalists) - Maamoun Abdulkarim (Syria DGAM) - Mariya Polner (World Customs Organization) - Françoise Bortolotti (INTERPOL Stolen Works of Art) - Okello Abungu Heritage Consultants (ICCROM) - Hafed Walda (Pending Deputy Ambassador to the permanent Libyan delegation at UNESCO)
Accommodation

While there is no official ARCA housing, there are a number of options for accommodations in Amelia depending on a student’s preference and budget. Program students stay in local apartments, which the students themselves source or they can choose from a list furnished to ARCA by landlords in the community. ARCA’s social director can assist students with locating housing and making agreements with landlords on students’ behalf. ARCA provides this service for the benefit of the students, but a participant’s housing is ultimately his or her own choice and responsibility, and students are free to arrange their own housing independently.

Most students elect to lease furnished apartments, which may be occupied alone or shared with other ARCA participants. Housing in Amelia is less expensive than in larger Italian cities. Private, furnished, one-bedroom apartments in the town center are available for approximately €450-700 per month including utilities. Shared multi-bedroom apartments average €400-500 per person, per month. ARCA-sourced apartments require a security deposit payable at the beginning of the stay that will be refunded at the end of the program, less any charges for damages.

Student Life

Umbria, the green heart of Italy, is an ideal location from which to view Italy’s rich artistic and cultural legacy, and offers excellent opportunities to learn the language and mingle with locals. Encouraging students to explore the wealth of Italy’s surrounding countryside during their free time, ARCA’s social director organizes optional extracurricular trips to a number of beautiful and historic places in the region.

Examples of past year activities include weekend day trips to explore cities such as Assisi, Orvieto and Narni, a day-long hike to the Cascade delle Marmore, visits to summer sagre (festivals), wine and olive oil tastings and Italian cooking classes. Depending on the activity, these options may or may not involve additional fees, but by taking advantage of all or part of the extracurricular activities offered, students ensure that their experience in Italy is one of a kind.

“ARCA transformed my interest in art crime into a veritable passion. I love sharing all the knowledge I have acquired with my astonished students and colleagues who are now almost as fired up about fighting art crime as I am! I am eternally grateful to ARCA for opening up this whole new world to me. I have no doubt that this rare expertise will give me a unique professional edge and enable me to make meaningful contributions to the field in the future.”

Suzette Scotti
‘14
Internet Connectivity

Wireless internet access is provided on a limited basis by the city of Amelia free of charge in Amelia’s library. This service is available for student use during the facility’s open hours Monday through Friday. Additional Wi-Fi hotspots are available in some city cafes, the local enoteca, and at a few local restaurants.

Student residences in the historic center may have no internet capabilities or they may be limited to 3GS access using pay-as-you-go tethering plans that students may purchase from local Italian internet providers. It should be noted though that the connection in the Amelia library, as well as throughout the city of Amelia and in rental apartments, is only as good as the Italian telephonic infrastructure. Outages do tend to occur in Italy, and students applying to the ARCA program must be aware that connectivity in Amelia will most likely not mirror the connectivity consistency or speed in their home countries.

While ARCA has a few laptops available for student loan in emergencies, these are for use in the library only and must be shared. Students should be prepared to bring their own laptops and one USB flash drive so that files can be transferred from a student’s personal laptop to the course computer during class presentations.

Food and Dining

Shopping for fresh food in local supermarkets, open air markets and alimentari in Amelia is inexpensive, and the city’s restaurants are modestly-priced and serve authentic, traditional Italian cuisine.

Students may want to estimate around €60 per week for cooking at home or €100 per week for several meals out at restaurants.

“I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude for having an opportunity to study at the ARCA Program. Staying in Amelia and studying was a great experience. I gained profound knowledge in different disciplines related to Art Crime and many-many new ideas which I am going to use and bring into life in the close future in Armenia.

Marine Fidanyan ’12
Tuition and Payments

Application Fee

Application Fee is €60.

Tuition

Tuition for the Postgraduate’s Certificate Program is €6,750.

Deadlines

March 1, 2018 €1750 Nonrefundable programming deposit due

April 01, 2018 €5000 Balance of tuition due

Tuition covers all course lectures and handouts, evaluation of work, dissertation supervision, field class transportation and course-related museum ticketing, conference attendee fees, student services fees and a limited number of program-related catered events. Please note that housing, airfare to/from Italy, daily meals and living expenses, and transportation to/from Amelia are not included.

Auditing Individual Courses

Non-certificate seeking individuals may apply to audit individual courses. A maximum of five part-time attendees are permitted per course. Auditing tuition is €800 per course.
Application Procedures

ARCA uses an electronic submission process for its Postgraduate Certificate Program. All application materials may be submitted via email, with the exception of a student’s official transcript. Official transcripts must be prepared by academic institutions and should be posted directly by ARCA at our Amelia mail point:

ARCA - ATT: Lynda Albertson  
Vico Lancia 22  
Amelia, (TR), 05022  
Italia

Electronically prepared transcripts and electronic application materials for the 2018 program must be emailed to education@artcrimeresearch.org.

All materials received will be acknowledged by email and a student's application file will be reviewed in its entirety once all documentation has been submitted and the application fee has been paid. Student applications are evaluated and considered in the order in which their completed file is received.

Completed applications consist of the following:

- Student Transcript(s)
- Completed Application Form
- Curriculum Vitae
- Two Letters of Recommendation and the completion of two recommendation assessment forms to be submitted directly via email by the person completing the reference on the student’s behalf
- Two short essays (documented on the application form) which should include the student’s research interests and plans for future work. Mention should also be made of any prior knowledge of current theory and practice as well as any relevant experience, training or publications. This statement should also include reasons for selecting this program and should briefly outline why the student would benefit from studying in a small town in Italy where the course hours and summer heat can be intensive.
- Copy of Passport
- Financial Aid documents (if applicable)
- Phone Interview (optional)

PLEASE NOTE: Although application and document deadlines have been identified for this program, we encourage applicants to apply early and to submit their supporting documentation in a timely fashion. As an incentive, those applicants who submit all documentation by the early application deadline will have their nonrefundable application fee applied towards their tuition upon acceptance. Due to the very limited scholarship funds available, students in need of financial aid should apply as soon as possible for aid consideration.

It should be further noted that qualified students applying late will be subject to late application fees or offered waiting list status if the program is already at capacity.
“ARCA was the adventure of a lifetime, and one that I wish I could experience again and again. Everything about it was beyond my expectations. Historic Amelia, set in the heart of Umbria, was the ideal backdrop for all that we experienced, the perfect place to live and learn. It provided a truly unique opportunity to become immersed in the traditions and culture of Italy. Everything from the food and wine to the wonderful people of this picturesque walled town seemed to accept and embrace us in a way that is hard to explain. Everything about Amelia seemed designed to steal a piece of our hearts from the moment we arrived. As for the education, what I learned in those short weeks, both academically and about myself, was inspiring. The readings, the classroom lectures, the afterhours discussions at any number of local establishments, and the field trips all combined to open up a world of information and possibilities to me that I never knew existed. Most important to the experience, however, were the people involved in this wonderful adventure. From the administrative staff and the professors, to the other students, to the families who provided our accommodations, to the couple who served us our morning cappuccinos at the local cafe, everyone played a very special part in a truly wondrous educational experience. They were strangers who became friends, and friends who eventually came to feel like family. ARCA just has that affect on you.

Mark Collins ’13
POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
IN ART CRIME AND
CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION

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