

SYLLABUS

Cultural Heritage Security. Legislation. Retrieving. Protection

University year 2025-2026

1. Information regarding the programme

1.1. Higher education institution	Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca
1.2. Faculty	History and Philosophy
1.3. Department	Doctoral school of International Relations and Security Studies
1.4. Field of study	History
1.5. Study cycle	Doctoral
1.6. Study programme/Qualification	PhD level in History/IRES
1.7. Form of education	Full-time

2. Information regarding the discipline

2.1. Name of the discipline	Cultural Heritage Security. Legislation. Retrieving. Protection			Discipline code	RISS-07		
2.2. Course coordinator	Cristian Găzdac						
2.3. Seminar coordinator	Cristian Găzdac						
2.4. Year of study	I	2.5. Semester	2	2.6. Type of evaluation	E	2.7. Discipline regime	OD

3. Total estimated time (hours/semester of didactic activities)

3.1. Hours per week	3	of which: 3.2 course	2	3.3 seminar/laboratory	1
3.4. Total hours in the curriculum	36	of which: 3.5 course	24	3.6 seminar/laboratory	12
Time allotment for individual study (ID) and self-study activities (SA)					hours
Learning using manual, course support, bibliography, course notes (SA)					5
Additional documentation (in libraries, on electronic platforms, field documentation)					5
Preparation for seminars/labs, homework, papers, portfolios and essays					13
Tutorship					14
Evaluations					5
Other activities:					
3.7. Total individual study hours					88
3.8. Total hours per semester					150
3.9. Number of ECTS credits					10

4. Prerequisites (if necessary)

4.1. curriculum	Not the case
4.2. competencies	Not the case

5. Conditions (if necessary)

5.1. for the course	Not the case
5.2. for the seminar /lab activities	Not the case

6.1. Specific competencies acquired ¹

¹ One can choose either competences or learning outcomes, or both. If only one option is chosen, the row related to the other option will be deleted, and the kept one will be numbered 6.

Professional/essential competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiarising participants with basic information about the skills needed to manage risks to material cultural heritage; • Acquiring basic concepts regarding cultural heritage protection, and particularly risk management for material cultural heritage, with a comprehensive approach; • Accumulation of knowledge by participants on aspects such as: • Threats to movable and immovable cultural heritage; • Vulnerability classification methods; emergency planning; • Development of the cultural heritage protection system; • Digital tools for cultural heritage risk management
Transversal competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying efficient teamwork techniques to complete specific tasks within chronological segments; • Self-assessment of the need to develop an intellectual personality capable of analysing various situations by artefact category; • Developing scientific essays using established methods and principles in the field; • Effective use of critical, reflective, and applied thinking;

6.2. Learning outcomes

Knowledge	<p>The PhD student knows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the complexity of the laws that protect tangible and intangible assets. • Specific legislation: In-depth study of the laws regarding the protection of national cultural heritage, cultural goods, and archives. • International Regulations: Understanding the UNESCO and Council of Europe conventions on the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict or illicit trafficking.
Skills	<p>The student is able:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying threats (natural, anthropogenic, technological) to heritage. • Risk assessment and potential impact on cultural heritage. • Development of risk maps and crisis scenarios. • Designing and implementing security plans for museums, archaeological sites, archives, libraries, or historical monuments. • Integration of prevention, protection, and intervention measures. • Coordinating emergency procedures and continuity plans. • Knowledge of the national and international legislative framework regarding heritage protection. • Applying safety, conservation, and protection regulations. • Managing the relationship with the competent authorities and institutions.
Responsibility and autonomy:	<p>The student has the ability to work independently to obtain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing protection strategies for heritage institutions (museums, archives, libraries, historical sites). • Integrating legal, technical, and ethical requirements into security plans. • Conducting risk analyses and impact assessments. • Establishing intervention priorities and allocating resources. • Continuous vulnerability monitoring. • Coordinating incident response (theft, vandalism, fire, natural disasters). • Activating and managing emergency plans. • Communication with authorities and the media, if applicable. • Application of heritage protection legislation. <p>Developing internal procedures and security protocols.</p>

7. Objectives of the discipline (outcome of the acquired competencies)

7.1 General objective of the discipline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the importance of cultural heritage protection by examining different categories of heritage artefacts and the legal and geopolitical contexts surrounding heritage, as well as related perspectives at the national and international levels.
--	--

<p>7.2 Specific objective of the discipline</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide master's students with the basic concepts necessary to understand and contextualise the sources of international law regarding cultural heritage. • To understand the coordination of the international network in fulfilling cultural heritage protection tasks. • To develop the ability to analyse fundamental reference parameters with operational implications in the field of cultural heritage protection, an aspect that offers broader horizons for reflection on the importance, function, and management and use of cultural properties. • To develop the ability to apply knowledge and understanding of the obligations to protect, conserve, and valorise cultural heritage imposed by international law, with particular reference to the processes of inscribing World Heritage sites and elements of intangible cultural heritage on the UNESCO lists and their use in the cultural and educational fields.
--	---

8. Content

8.1 Course	Teaching methods	Remarks
1. Protection of Cultural Heritage in International Law	Lecture; explanation	
2. Basic Principles of Cultural Heritage Protection in International Law	Lecture; explanation	
3. Treaty-Based Protection at the International Level, the UNESCO Convention System for the Protection of Cultural Heritage	Lecture; explanation	
4. Complementing the UNESCO System and Expanding the Scope of Protection: From "National Treasures" to Traditional Knowledge, Cultural Goods, and Services	Lecture; explanation	
5. The Complementarity of International and National Levels of Protection	Lecture; explanation	
6. Protection Based on Specific Rules of General International Law, an Evolving Process	Lecture; explanation	
7. The Protection of Cultural Heritage in Armed Conflicts	Lecture; explanation	
8. The 1972 World Heritage Convention	Lecture; explanation	
9. Intangible Cultural Heritage	Lecture; explanation	
10. Archaeological Cultural Heritage	Lecture; explanation	
11. Professional International Organizations in the Field of Cultural Heritage	Lecture; explanation	
12. National Legislation on the Protection of Cultural Heritage	Lecture; explanation	
<p>Bibliography:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mucci F, La diversità del patrimonio e delle espressioni culturali nell'ordinamento internazionale. Da ratio implicita a oggetto diretto di protezione, Naples, Editoriale Scientifica, 2012 2. Mucci F, The Legal Protection of Cultural Heritage: a Comparative Analysis of Some Mediterranean National Legislations in the Light of the Relevant International Convention, in LA COMUNITÀ INTERNAZIONALE, vol. 2, 2003, pp. 287-300 3. Mucci F, Short And Quickly Delivered, Yet Quite Full Of Meaning: The International Criminal Court Judgment About The Intentional Destruction Of Cultural Heritage In Timbuktu, in ITALIAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC LAW, vol. 2-2016, pp. 415-423 4. Mucci F, Armenian Cultural Properties and Cultural Heritage: What Protection under International Law One Hundred Years Later?, in Lattanzi F, Pistoia E. (edited by), The Armenian Massacres of 1915-1916 a Hunderd Years Later. Open Questions and Tentative Answers in International Law, Springer, 2018, pp. 161-179. 5. Mucci F, Building Resilient Peace through the Respect of Cultural Heritage and Pluralism: A Task for UN Peacekeeping Forces to Be Carried out in Cooperation with UNESCO, in Caracciolo I., and Montuoro U. (edited by), New Models of Peacekeeping Security and Protection of Human Rights The Role of the UN and Regional Organizations, Torino, 2018, pp. 119-129 		

6.	Pinton S. And Zagato L. (edited by), Cultural Heritage. Scenarios 2015-2017, Venice, 2017, Edizioni Ca' Foscari, 878 pp.		
7.	Craig Forrest, International law and the protection of cultural heritage, Routledge, November 2010, 458 pp.		
8.	Roger O'Keefe, The Protection of Cultural Property in Armed Conflict (2006), pp. 195-201, 259-61 and 314-16		
9.	Legea 182/2000		
8.2 Seminar / laboratory		Teaching methods	Remarks
1. Introduction to Cultural Heritage Protection – Bibliography		Presentation; explanation	
2. Methods for Writing a Scientific Paper		Presentation	
3. ICOMOS		Case study	
4. ICOM		Role-play	
5. ICCROM		Debate	
6. CIMEC		Role-play	
7. Methods for Evaluating Artefacts		Case study	
8. Methods for Evaluating Numismatic Material		Case study	
9. National Cultural Heritage Protection Legislation – Practical Applicability		Case study	
10. International Cultural Heritage Protection Legislation – Practical Applicability		Case study	
11. Antiquities Trafficking		Case study	
12. Recovering and Reintroducing National Heritage into the Cultural Circuit		Debate; Case study	
Bibliography:			
1. Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict 1954, paragraphul 1			
2. Second Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict 1999, articolele 1g și 9(1)(a)			
3. Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property 1970, articolele 1-7b,(i), 8-13a, d, și 14-17			
4. United Nations Security Council resolution 1483 (2003), 22 May 2003, paragraphul 7			
5. United Nations Security Council resolution 2199 (2015), 12 February 2015, paragraphul 17			
6. Craig Forrest, International Law and the Protection of Cultural Heritage (2010), 166-96			
7. Patty Gerstenblith, 'Models of Implementation of the 1970 UNESCO Convention: Can Their Effectiveness Be Determined?' in Prott, Redmond-Cooper & Urice (eds), Realising Cultural Heritage Law. Festschrift for Patrick O'Keefe (2013)			
8. http://eca.state.gov/cultural-heritage-center/cultural-property-protection/bilateral-agreements			
9. List of Swiss bilateral agreements concerning import restrictions on cultural property			
10. http://www.bak.admin.ch/kulturerbe/04371/04377/index.html?lang=en			
11. Legea 182/2000			

9. Corroborating the content of the discipline with the expectations of the epistemic community, professional associations and representative employers within the field of the program

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The discipline was developed in accordance with works in the field, published both domestically and abroad; • Some topics covered in the course include relevant aspects that are the subject of concern for specialised institutions or national and international scientific conferences, including debates in specialised journals at the national and international levels.
--

10. Evaluation

Activity type	10.1 Evaluation criteria	10.2 Evaluation methods	10.3 Percentage of final grade
10.4 Course	Verbal examination	Conversation	70%
10.5 Seminar/laboratory	Project debate	Presentation; Debate	30%
10.6 Minimum standard of performance			

- To coherently explain the fundamental concepts related to heritage security (risks, vulnerabilities, prevention, protection, intervention).
 - To correctly use specialised terminology and the interdisciplinary conceptual framework (historical, legal, technical).
 - Minimum standard: correct and reasoned answers to at least 60–70% of the theoretical assessment items.
- To identify and apply the main legal acts concerning heritage protection.
 - To integrate legal requirements into the proposed solutions.
 - Minimum standard: citing and correctly using at least 2–3 relevant normative acts.
- To conduct a risk analysis for a heritage site (museum, monument, archive, site).
 - To identify potential threats, vulnerabilities, and consequences.
 - Minimum standard: developing a functional risk analysis with a logical structure and justified conclusions.

11. Labels ODD (Sustainable Development Goals)²

	General label for Sustainable Development						
							
							

Date:
27.09.2025

Signature of course coordinator



Signature of seminar coordinator



Date of approval:

...

Signature of the head of department



² Keep only the labels that, according to the [Procedure for applying ODD labels in the academic process](#), suit the discipline and delete the others, including the general one for *Sustainable Development* – if not applicable. If no label describes the discipline, delete them all and write „*Not applicable.*”.