

Suggested Readings

- **Bhushan, J. B.** (1958). *The Costumes and Textiles of India*. D. B. Taraporevala Sons & Co.
- **Bradley, C. G. (n.d.).** (2013). *Western world costume: An outline history* (Dover Fashion and Costumes). Dover Publications.
- **Bradshaw, A.** (2021). *World costumes*. Hassell Street Press.
- **Flynn, D.** (1971). *Costumes of India*. Oxford & IBH Publishing.
- **Gillow, J. (2016).** *African textiles: Colour and creativity across a continent*. Thames & Hudson.
- **Hornblower, S., et al.** (2021). *Ancient Egyptian, Assyrian, and Persian costumes and decorations*. Alpha Edition.
- **Kholiya, R., & Paul, S.** (2024). *History of world costume*. LAP Lambert Academic Publishing.
- **Laver, J.** (2020). *Costume and fashion: A concise history* (A. de la Haye, Contributor). Thames & Hudson.
- **Lester, K. M.** (1967). *Historic Costume*. Chas A. Bennett Co.
- **Marathe, A.** (2025). *Tales of the Indian saree: Threads of India's timeless weaves*. Independently published.
- **Müller, C.** (1993). *The timeline of world costume: From fig leaf to street fashion*. Thames & Hudson.
- **Nimo, K. K.** (2022). *Africa in fashion*. Laurence King Publishing. Foreword by D. Sagoe.

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination branch, University of Delhi, from time to time

Bachelors in Arts with With Community Science Category-V

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSE – DSC-FAS 11-HSC: TEXTILE CONSERVATION

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY, PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course Title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility Criteria	Prerequisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical		
Textile Conservation	4	3	1	0	Class XII	NIL

Learning Objectives

- To impart theoretical knowledge regarding the importance of museums and textile conservation in the context of preservation of heritage culture.
- To familiarise with the code of ethics followed for conservation practices at an international level.
- To analyse and elaborate on the degradation experienced by textiles and formulate preventive and curative conservation procedures for mitigating deterioration.

- To use various methods of interventive conservation procedures for prolonging the life of the textiles.
- To learn about appropriate handling techniques, housekeeping, storage and display techniques subjective to the condition and nature of the objects.

Learning Outcomes

The students would be able to:

- Identify the factors causing deterioration and formulate appropriate treatment plans using preventive and curative conservation concepts.
- Identify and use appropriate conservation grade materials for the processes of textile conservation.
- Execute various storage and display techniques for the safekeeping of historic textiles.
- Apply appropriate handling and housekeeping techniques while working with fragile and sensitive materials.

THEORY **(Credits 3; Hours 45)**

UNIT I: Fundamentals of Museology and Conservation

10 Hours

This unit introduces the students to the concept of museums, their importance and types and familiarises the students with the importance of textile conservation, the ethics that a textile conservator should follow and the condition assessment and documentation preparation of historic textiles.

- Museums and museology: Role of museums, types of museums, museums as a center for preservation of historic objects
- Introduction to textile conservation: What is textile conservation, role of a textile conservator, difference between a conservator and a curator
- Ethics and principles of conservation: International code of ethics followed for conservation, difference between conservation and restoration
- Documentation: Need for documentation, types of documentation, condition assessment of objects, common terminologies used for damages seen in historic objects

UNIT II: Textile Degradation and Agents of Deterioration

10 Hours

This unit provides the basic knowledge of the intrinsic and extrinsic factors that cause the deterioration of textiles, and the concept of preventive and curative conservation for mitigation of the deterioration

- Preventive and curative conservation: definitions of preventive and curative conservation, difference between preventive and curative conservation, their application in textile conservation based on the condition of the textiles.
- Factors damaging textiles: extrinsic factors such as light, temperature, relative humidity, pest, pollutants, and intrinsic factors such as inappropriate handling, use of inadequate conservation grade materials, insufficient preventive conservation methods
- Effect of degradation on textiles: effect of factors of deterioration on the fibre, weave and colour component of textiles

UNIT III: Curative Conservation

10 Hours

This unit imparts practical knowledge of using interventive methods to perform curative conservation treatments of cleaning, stain removal and stabilization of fragile textiles

- Conservation grade materials used in conservation
- Cleaning methods: mechanical cleaning (brush cleaning, vacuum cleaning, eraser cleaning), aqueous cleaning (importance of water as a cleaning agent, use of detergents of cleaning historic textiles, methods of aqueous cleaning), solvent cleaning using common solvents used for conservation
- Common stains observed in historic textiles and their treatment
- Stabilisation of textiles via stitch repair using common conservation grade stitches and materials

UNIT IV: Housekeeping, Storage and Display

10 Hours

This unit provides details regarding the appropriate handling methods for, storage methods and display techniques for historic textiles

- Handling of objects and workspace equipment
- Housekeeping rules for historic textiles: packing and unpacking, moving, rolling and unrolling, labelling
- Storage methods and materials for flat textiles, framed and mounted textiles, costumes, and accessories
- Display tools and techniques: showcases, frames, mannequins and display of accessories

TUTORIALS (Credits 1; Hours 15)

1. Discussions on processes and challenges involved in documentation, cleaning, mounting, and pest control while ensuring both preservation and public visibility of textile artifacts,
2. Group discussions on Preservation vs Restoration
3. Visit a textile museum or collection and survey external and internal factors.
4. Examine textile artifacts and prepare condition reports, Photograph textiles from different angles.
5. Mount textiles on different types of supports, such as boards, rollers, or mannequins.
6. Display textiles in a way that minimizes damage and maximizes visibility.
7. Hand-stitching techniques for repairing and reconstructing textiles.
8. Any other academic work that demonstrates the student's ability to apply the concepts learnt in the subject.
9. Evaluation and feedback by the teacher

Essential Readings

Unit I

This unit introduces museums, museology, and textile conservation, highlighting the roles of conservators and curators, ethical guidelines, documentation, and condition assessment of historic textiles.

- AIC, (1994). *AIC Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Practice*.
- Jose, S. et.al. (Eds.). (2022). *Handbook of Museum Textiles Volume 1 Conservation and Cultural Research*. Wiley.
- Landi, S. (2016). *Textile Conservator's Manual*. Routledge.

Unit II

This unit explores the causes of textile deterioration and the principles of preventive and curative conservation, focusing on factors that damage textile fibres, weaves, and colours.

- Agarwal, O. P. (1977). *Care and presentation of museum projects–II*. NRL.
- Balazsy, A. (2012). *Chemical Principles of Textile Conservation*. Routledge.

Unit III

This unit covers interventive textile conservation methods, including conservation-grade materials, cleaning and stain removal techniques, and stabilization of fragile textiles through appropriate repair methods.

- Balazsy, A. (2012). *Chemical Principles of Textile Conservation*. Routledge.
- Landi, S. (2016). *Textile Conservator's Manual*. Routledge.

Unit IV

This unit covers safe handling, packing, storage, and display practices for historic textiles, emphasizing appropriate techniques and tools for their preservation and effective exhibition.

- Agarwal, O. P. (1977). *Care and presentation of museum projects–II*. NRL.
- Robinson, J. Pardoe T. (2000). *An Illustrated Guide to the Care of Costume and Textile Collections*. Museums & Galleries Commission, London.
- Jose, S. et.al. (Eds.). (2022). *Handbook of Museum Textiles Volume 1 Conservation and Cultural Research*. Wiley.

Suggested Readings

- Agrawal, O. P. (2007). *Essentials of Conservation and Museology*. Sundeep Prakashan.
- Ambrose, T., & Paine, C. (1993). *Museum Basics*. Routledge.
- Depauw, K. (2017). *The Care and Display of Historic Clothing*. Rowman & Littlefield.
- Finch, K., & Putnam, G. (1985). *The Care and Preservation of Textiles*.
- Shelley, M. (1987). *The Care and Handling of Art Objects*. Metropolitan Museum of Art.
- Lennard, F. et. al. (2024). *Textile Conservation Advances in Practice*. Taylor & Francis.

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