INDIAN INSTITUTE OF HERITAGE • INFORMATION BULLETIN - 2026–2027

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF HERITAGE

INFORMATION BULLETIN
POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

• 2026–2027 •

CONTENTS

Message from the Vice Chancellor 3
About the Institute 4
Academic Departments 4
Department of History of Art 5
Department of Art Conservation 6
Department of Museology 6
Department of Archaeology 6
Department of Palaeography, Epigraphy and Numismatics 7
Eligibility Criteria 7
Admission Procedure and Common Admission Entrance Test 8
Student Intake 9
Application Procedure 9
Common Admission Entrance Test Pattern 9
Important Dates 10
Syllabus for Common Admission Entrance Test 10
Reservation Policy 11
IIH Fee Structure 11
Hostel and Campus Facilities 12
Hostel Accommodation 12
Library 12
Laboratories and Academic Facilities 12
IIH Museum of Art and Archaeology 12
Sports and Recreation 13
Student Support System 13
Career Opportunities 13
Contact Information 14

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

It gives me immense pride and joy to welcome you to the Indian Institute of Heritage — an institution founded on the conviction that our past is not merely a record of what has been, but a living foundation for what we shall become. Whether you are a student discovering this Institute for the first time, a scholar engaging with its research, or a partner walking alongside us in the shared mission of heritage stewardship, I extend to you a warm and heartfelt welcome.

India is home to one of the world's oldest and most continuous civilisational traditions — one that has given humanity profound gifts in art, architecture, philosophy, science, and thought. Yet this inheritance is not self-sustaining. It must be understood, cared for, and renewed by each generation. The Indian Institute of Heritage was founded precisely on this understanding — to ensure that India's extraordinary cultural wealth embodied in its landscapes, monuments and manuscripts, its performing and living traditions, is studied with rigour, preserved with skill, and transmitted with passion.

What makes IIH distinctive is its interdisciplinary imagination. Heritage, by its very nature, resists narrow boundaries. A damaged mural calls upon the art historian and the conservator equally. A museum exhibition asks as much of the curator as of the community whose story is being told. An intangible tradition needs both the ethnographer and the practitioner. In all our departments we cultivate the breadth of perspective in training scholars and professionals who can think across disciplines and act with both intellectual depth and practical expertise. We also embrace global collaboration through international partnerships, expert-led training, and a curriculum informed by the best in heritage practice — preparing our students to engage as stewards of a shared heritage.

We are convinced that preserving and promoting heritage is an act of nation-building. When a conservator stabilises a centuries-old fresco, when a museum curator opens a collection to public, when a researcher documents a vanishing craft tradition — these are not merely academic endeavours. They are contributions to national identity, to social cohesion, and to the confidence with which India presents herself to the world. Our outreach extends from the living heritage communities in the remote villages to museum collections of metropolitan centres, and we are committed to ensuring that no region, no tradition, and no community is left outside the scope of our care.

The pages that follow will acquaint you with our programmes, our research, our faculty, and our aspirations. I invite you to engage with what we do and join us in the conviction that how a society relates to its heritage reveals something essential about how it understands itself. At the Indian Institute of Heritage, we believe that a nation that tends its past with wisdom and sensitivity is a nation that walks confidently into its future.

Welcome. We are glad you are here.

[Dr Sachchidanand Joshi]
Vice Chancellor

1. ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

The Indian Institute of Heritage, formerly known as the National Museum Institute of the History of Art, Conservation and Museology, is one of India's premier institutions dedicated to higher education, training, and research in the fields of History of Art, Art Conservation, Museology, Archaeology and Palaeography, Epigraphy and Numismatics. The Institute was established and registered on 27 January 1989 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, and was accorded the status of a 'Deemed-to-be University' on 28 April 1989. Since its inception, the Institute has played a pioneering role in promoting interdisciplinary heritage education by integrating academic learning with practical training and research. In 2023, the Institute was renamed as the Indian Institute of Heritage, after the announcement of the Union Budget of India for the fiscal year 2020-21, reflecting its expanded academic vision and broader engagement with heritage studies.

The teaching modes of the Indian Institute of Heritage are not limited to the classroom alone. An integral part of the teaching structure is to give the student firsthand experience, expose them to new and innovative ideas and encourage them to participate in forums that have vital and far reaching outcomes. They also get opportunities to interact with professionals who are well trained and established in their respective fields. The Institute also co-ordinates with premier institutions within India and across the world to organise seminars, symposiums and workshops with the aim to increase awareness about and facilitate the development of fields related to the core courses conducted here. The students are always encouraged to be a part of these forums.

The Institute is very aware of its social responsibilities towards the community; we conduct public courses to disseminate knowledge of the rich artistic cultural heritage of our country to the general public. The Institute also fulfils its social responsibilities towards the marginalised group by conducting training programmes for them.

2. ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

Department of History of Art

The Department of History of Art is a premier centre for the study of art, architecture, visual culture, and heritage. The Department offers a two year full time MA programme and a PhD programme. Students have a unique opportunity to explore artistic traditions from India and across the world, spanning ancient, medieval, modern, and contemporary periods.

Combining academic study with experiential learning, the Department engages students through lectures, seminars, workshops, heritage walks, museum visits, study tours, and research projects. This approach develops critical thinking, visual literacy, and analytical skills for understanding art and culture in diverse contexts. Research, exhibitions, heritage documentation, and cultural outreach are integral to the Department's academic and public engagement activities, providing students with opportunities to participate in meaningful scholarly and community-based initiatives. Supported by distinguished faculty and renowned

scholars, the Department prepares students for careers in museums, galleries, heritage management, academia, cultural policy, publishing, tourism, and the creative industries.

Course Structure

Programme	Duration	Course requirements	Skill Development Courses	Language Courses	Credits
M.A in History of Art	Full-time, 2 years (4 semesters)	• 12 core papers • Two Seminars • Four weeks internship placement • Dissertation	• Research Methodology • Computer Applications • Photography • Documentary Making	• Sanskrit • Persian	80 Credit

Department of Art Conservation

The Department of Art Conservation at the Indian Institute of Heritage is the only centre in the country offering postgraduate and doctoral-level education in the conservation of art and cultural heritage. The two-year, full-time MA programme trains students in the ethical, philosophical, and technical dimensions of conservation practice across all categories of works of art. Teaching combines core instruction with independent conservation projects and scientific research, and students select a specialisation in which they conduct original work for their dissertation.

Research is central to our Department's mission. Under close faculty guidance, students master independent, systematic inquiry to advance conservation practices. Our research covers conservation science, ancient materials, fabrication techniques, mechanisms of deterioration, and the development of new methods and materials for conservation treatment.. We also investigate deterioration mechanisms and engineer new conservation treatments. Through national and global partnerships, our students and faculty stay engaged with essential interdisciplinary methodologies.

Course Structure

Programme	Duration	Course requirements	Immersive Engagement Courses	Skill Development courses	Credits
M.A. in Art Conservation	Ful-time, 2 years (4 semesters)	• 11 core papers, • Four-week internship placement • 2 Seminars • Dissertation	• Study tour/ Fieldwork • Workshops	• Research Methodology • Photography and image editing • Computer applications	80 Credits

Department of Museology

The Department of Museology at the Indian Institute of Heritage is one of the foremost centres in the country for postgraduate and doctoral education in museum studies and heritage practice. The Department offers a two-year full-time MA programme and a PhD programme, through which students are trained in the theoretical, ethical and applied dimensions of museology. These programmes provide rigorous academic training, complemented by close supervision and mentorship for both MA and doctoral candidates.

The Department's mandate extends well beyond the classroom. Through its vigorous programme of action research, the Department develops innovative and best-practice models in the museum sector, resulting in a wide range of research initiatives and applied projects, including content development and curation for institutions and conducting a national survey and archival study of museums across India. In addition, it actively cultivates academic and research collaborations with a number of national and international institutions to organise conferences, seminars, workshops and exchange programmes.

Course Structure

Programme	Duration	Course requirements	Skill Courses	Credits
M.A In Museology	Full-time, 2 years (4 semesters)	• 14 papers • One Seminar • Four-week internship placement • Dissertation	• Research Methodology • Calligraphy, • Moulding and Casting • Diorama Making & Carpentry, • Layout and Graphic Designing	80 Credits

Department of Archaeology

The Department of Archaeology at the Indian Institute of Heritage was established in 2023 with the objective of promoting quality teaching, practical training, and research in archaeology and heritage studies. Supported by distinguished faculty and renowned scholars, the Department prepares students for careers in Archaeological departments, museums galleries, heritage management, academia, cultural policy, publishing, tourism, and the creative industries.

The M.A. Archaeology programme is designed to provide a balanced integration of theoretical learning and practical field training. The course emphasizes classroom teaching along with hands-on training in archaeological exploration, excavation, documentation, artefact analysis, digital methods including GIS and remote sensing, heritage interpretation, and research-oriented studies. Students are also exposed to academic tours, museum studies, scientific analysis, and interdisciplinary approaches in archaeology, enabling them to develop professional skills and field-based experience essential for higher research and careers in archaeology and heritage management.

Course Structure

Programme	Duration	Course requirements	Immersive Engagement Courses	Skill Development courses	Language courses	Credits
M.A. in Archaeology	Ful-time, 2 years (4 semesters)	• 14 core papers, • Four-week internship placement • Dissertation	Exploration and Excavation training/ workshops	• Research Methodology • Photography • Computer applications in Archaeology	Sanskrit/ Persian Pali and Prakrit	80 Credits

Department of Palaeography, Epigraphy and Numismatics

The Department of Palaeography, Epigraphy & Numismatics opened in the year 2023. The Institute has introduced the first ever Master's degree program in this discipline. The Department offers a wide range of courses on Indian Palaeography, Epigraphy and Numismatics as well as inscriptions of South-East Asia. It also organizes special lectures and workshops by distinguished scholars from India and abroad to expand the knowledge base of the students. A diverse community of eminent scholars, archaeologists, epigraphists, Museum Curators and Historians, are regularly invited by the department as guest faculty. This creates a vibrant environment and students get the opportunity to interact and learn from highly experienced professionals.

Course Structure

Programme	Duration	Course requirements	Skill development courses	Language courses	Credits
M.A. in Palaeography, Epigraphy & Numismatics	Full-time, 2 years (4 semester)	• 9 papers (Core papers) • Four weeks internship placement • 2 Seminars • Dissertation	• Research Methodology, • Photography, computer applications Level I, • Computer Application Level II, • Documentary Making	• Sanskrit, • Pali-Prakrit • Persian language	80 Credits

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

❖ M.A. in History of Art:

Essential Qualifications: A Graduate Degree from a recognized University. Good academic record with minimum 50% marks or equivalent grade at the graduate level.

Desirable qualifications: A background in Social Sciences, Liberal Arts or Fine Arts.

❖ **M.A. in Art Conservation**:

A graduate degree from a recognised university in any of the following subjects: Physics, Chemistry, Geology, Biology, Biotechnology, Microbiology or Visual/Fine Arts or Architecture, Engineering and Technology with minimum 50% marks.

OR

A graduate degree from a recognised university in any of the following subjects: History, Geography, Anthropology, Archaeology or related disciplines with minimum 50% marks and 10+2 / Senior Secondary / Intermediate level education in science stream.

❖ **M.A. in Museology**:

A graduate degree from a recognised university with minimum 50% marks or equivalent grade in any discipline of Science, Social Science and Humanities. Desirable: A Background/PG Diploma in subjects related to History of Art and Museum studies.

❖ **M.A. in Archaeology**:

A graduate/postgraduate degree from a recognised university with minimum 50% marks or equivalent grade in any of the following subjects: History; Archaeology; Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology; Sanskrit; Pali; Buddhist Studies; Prakrit; Jain Studies; Life Sciences/Earth Sciences; Anthropology; History of Art; Museology; Art Conservation; Palaeography, Epigraphy and Numismatics.

❖ **M.A. in Palaeography, Epigraphy and Numismatics**:

A graduate degree from a recognised university with a minimum of 50% marks in any of the following subjects: History; Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology; History of Art; Classical Languages like Sanskrit, Tamil, Pali, Prakrit, Arabic, Persian, etc.

OR

Any graduate degree with minimum 50% marks from a recognized university with at least one paper in any one of the above-mentioned subjects

OR

Any graduate degree with minimum 50% from a recognised university and a diploma/certificate in any one of the above-mentioned subjects

4. ADMISSION PROCEDURE AND COMMON ADMISSION ENTRANCE TEST

♦ **Student Intake:**

To maintain high academic standards and ensure quality teaching, individual attention, and effective practical training, the M.A. programmes have a limited intake of students. As a

Deemed-to-be University, the Indian Institute of Heritage emphasizes a student-centric teaching-learning pedagogy that encourages close academic mentoring, intensive field training, research guidance, and meaningful interaction between faculty and students. The allocation of seats in each department is as under:

Departments	**Seats**
History of Art	30
Art Conservation	25
Museology	25
Archaeology	25
Palaeography, Epigraphy & Numismatics	25

♦ Application Procedure

Applications can be made online for the Common Admission Entrance Test (CAET) through our website link: www.nmi.gov.in until 3rd July 2026 (the last date for application). Applicants have to pay an application fee (General: Rs 500; SC, ST, EWS, PwD: Rs. 250) through online mode only.

Admissions to all five MA programmes is conducted through a single Common Admission Entrance Test (CAET) held simultaneously at 12 locations across the country. Each applicant can opt for **up to three MA programmes** in order of their preference.

Applicants can also opt for **a maximum of three examination centres** in order of their preference. IIH reserves the right to cancel an examination centre if there are not enough candidates appearing at that centre. In the event of cancellation of a centre, IIH will reallocate another centre in your order of preference. Candidates shall be duly informed in advance.

♦ Common Admission Entrance Test Pattern

- **Written examination (75 marks)**

The Common Admission Entrance Test shall consist of questions from all five MA programmes. The question paper shall carry **50 multiple-choice questions** and **five long-answer** questions to be written in maximum 200 words. The total duration of the examination shall be 2.5 Hours.

- **Interview (25 Marks)**

Each Department shall conduct its own interviews according to the preferences indicated by the candidates and prepare a merit list. Selection to various MA programmes shall be based on candidates' stated preferences and their combined performance in the **entrance examination** and **online interview**.

The schedule for interviews shall be as under:

- **July 13, 2026**: First preference candidates.
- **July 14, 2026**: Second preference candidates.

- **July 15, 2026**: Third preference candidates.

Online link for interviews would be shared with shortlisted candidates in due course.

♦ Important Dates

The following schedule is proposed for the entire admission process:

Important dates	Activity
03 June 2026	Release of Admission Notification/Advertisement
03 July 2026	Last date for submission of applications
12 July 2026	Common Entrance Written Examination
13–15 July 2026	Online Interviews for shortlisted candidates
21 July 2026	Declaration of results
21-31 July 2026	Admissions
03 August 2026	Commencement of Semester/Classes

♦ Syllabus for Common Admission Entrance Test

- Sources of Indian History: Literary, Archaeological and Foreign accounts
- Pre and Protohistoric Cultures of India: Major sites
- Harappan civilization: Major sites, art, architecture, seals-sealings & script
- Ashokan inscriptions: Sites and important historical facts
- Ancient Indian coins
- Early Historical Indian art and architecture (Mauryas to Vakatakas: stupa and early temple architecture, sculpture and painting traditions)
- Early Medieval Indian art and architecture (Under major dynasties such as Western Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Pallavas, Cholas, Hoysalas, Pratiharas, Parmaras, Chandellas and Pala-Senas, Temple traditions: Nagara, Dravida, and Vesara)
- High Medieval art and architecture (Sultanate and Mughal periods, Miniature paintings: Mughal and Rajasthani schools)
- Modern and Contemporary Indian Art: Major art movements and artists.
- Indian Painting (Ancient and Medieval Period: Ajanta Paintings, Miniature Paintings)
- Art materials and media: Painting techniques, pigments and dyes, and common supports such as canvas, panel, paper, parchment, palm leaf, bark, stone, metal, and textile
- Conservation fundamentals: Meanings of preservation, remedial conservation, restoration, and reconstruction; preventive vs. interventive conservation and documentation.

- Science and deterioration: Basic chemistry and physics, major agents of deterioration (physical, chemical and biological), and environmental factors affecting artefacts such as light, humidity, temperature, pollutants, disasters.
- Policies and heritage framework: Key conservation charters, Indian heritage laws, and the role of international bodies such as ICCROM, ICOM-Conservation, ICOMOS etc.
- Definition of Museum, Museology and Museography
- History and Theory of Museums in India and the World
- Social, Cultural and Educational Role of a Museum
- Functions of Museums, including Collection, Documentation, Preventive Conservation and Handling, Exhibition and Education
- Type and Classification of Museums based on collections, governing body, and functions
- Major Museums around the World and in India

5. RESERVATION POLICY

Reservation of seats for SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy Layer)/ PwD etc. shall be as per Govt. of India Rules. All candidates seeking relaxation against a particular category must attach self-attested photocopies of the latest issued certificates, which should be in proper format and signed by appropriate authority.

6. IIH FEE STRUCTURE

S. No.	Fee	Amount (Rs.)
1	Tuition fee – MA (for 2 semesters)	15,000/-
2	Tuition fee – PhD (per year)	20,000/-
3	Tuition fee (foreign students) – MA (for 2 semesters)	$ 800
4	Tuition fee (foreign students) – PhD (per year)	$ 1,000
5	Registration fee	1,000/-
6	Migration certificate fee	100/-
7	PhD thesis submission fee	1,000/-
8	Re-examination fee	500/- per subject each for theory and practical
9	Re-evaluation fee	500/-
10	I-cards re-issue fee (Academic / hostel / Library)	500/- per instance
11	Re-issue of fee book	100/-
12	Convocation fee	2,000/-
13	Library late book return fee	10/- per day

14	Short term course fee	10,000/- per course
15	Duplicate marksheet issuance fee	1,000/- per instance
16	Duplicate degree issuance fee	1,000/- per instance
17	Hostel fee	8,200/- per month
18	Late fee – hostel rent	50/- per week
19	Hostel security (one time)	8,200/-
20	Late fee – tuition fee	100/- per week
21	Caution Money (refundable)	10,000/-
22	Alumni fee (to be adjusted out of caution money)	2,000/-
23	Transcript fees	- Rs.1,000/- if the student applies within 06 years of completing the degree - Rs.1,500/- if the student applies after 06 years of completing the degree.
24	Entrance Application fees	Rs.500/- for General, OBC Rs.250/- for SC, ST, EWS, PwD

7. HOSTEL AND CAMPUS FACILITIES

♦ Hostel Accommodation

The Indian Institute of Heritage provides residential facilities within the campus to support a safe and academically enriching environment for students. The hostel accommodation has a capacity of 56 seats for girl students and 40 seats for boy students. The campus also includes a scholars residence with 12 furnished rooms for visiting faculty members, scholars, and guests attending seminars, conferences, workshops, and academic programmes.

♦ Library

The Institute Library is a two floored academic resource centre with a collection of over eight thousand books in Hindi and English on subjects related to art history, conservation, museology, archaeology, inscriptions, numismatics, heritage management, and cultural studies. The library has a rich collection of rare books, journals and slides. Anti-plagiarism Software, high speed internet, coloured printout, scanning and photocopy facilities are available for students. The library is equipped with remote access through Myloft software and Open Public Access Catalogue is available through KOHA at any time anywhere. The library has contributed 67,000 digital slides images to National Virtual Library of India. The library also provides journals of current affairs, general knowledge, newspapers in Hindi and English.

♦ Laboratories and Academic Facilities

The Institute provides practical and research-oriented learning facilities through its well-equipped conservation laboratories, Art studios, computer laboratory, and creative spaces for museum practical activities. An Archaeological Laboratory is also under development to strengthen scientific and field-based training in archaeology.

♦ IIH Museum of Art and Archaeology

The IIH Museum of Art and Archaeology, located on the ground floor of the campus, serves as an important teaching and research facility of the Institute. The museum includes a large exhibition hall for displaying objects related to art, archaeology, and cultural heritage, providing students with hands-on exposure to museum collections and heritage interpretation.

- **Sports and Recreation**

The Institute encourages sports and recreational activities for the overall development and well-being of students. A badminton court, yoga facility, indoor games and other recreational activities are available within campus.

8. STUDENT SUPPORT SYSTEM

The Indian Institute of Heritage is committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and student-friendly academic environment through various support systems and welfare committees established in accordance with the guidelines of the University Grants Commission and Government of India.

- **Placement Cell**

The Placement Cell facilitates career guidance, internships, professional training, and placement opportunities for students by establishing academic and professional linkages with museums, cultural institutions, research organizations, and heritage-related sectors.

- **Equal Opportunity Cell**

The Equal Opportunity Cell promotes inclusive education and ensures equal access to academic and institutional facilities for students belonging to diverse social, economic, and cultural backgrounds.

- **Student Grievance Redressal Committee**

The Student Grievance Redressal Committee addresses academic and administrative concerns of students and works towards maintaining transparency, fairness, and a supportive learning environment within the Institute.

- **Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDG) Cell**

The SEDG Cell works for the welfare, support, and academic inclusion of students belonging to socio-economically disadvantaged sections of society in accordance with the objectives of the National Education Policy 2020.

- **Committee Against Sexual Harassment of Women**

The Institute has constituted a Committee Against Sexual Harassment of Women to ensure a safe and respectful campus environment. The committee functions in accordance with the provisions of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

- **Anti-Ragging Squad and Committee**

The Anti-Ragging Squad and Anti-Ragging Committee are constituted as per UGC regulations to maintain a ragging-free campus environment. The Institute follows a strict zero-tolerance policy against ragging and ensures the safety and dignity of all students.

9. CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The programmes offered by the Indian Institute of Heritage prepare students for diverse professional careers in the fields of archaeology, museology, conservation, art history, heritage management, archives, and cultural studies. With a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary learning, practical training, research, fieldwork, and digital methods, students develop academic, technical, analytical, and communication skills required in both public and private sectors.

♦ Public Sector Opportunities

Graduates may pursue careers in organizations such as the Archaeological Survey of India, museums, archives, libraries, cultural institutions, state archaeology departments, and research organizations. Opportunities are also available in museum conservation laboratories, epigraphy and numismatics divisions, manuscript preservation projects, and heritage documentation initiatives.

♦ Research and Academic Careers

Students may continue higher studies and research through M.Phil., Ph.D., Post-Doctoral research, and academic fellowships in India and abroad. Career opportunities are available in teaching, university research, archival studies, heritage documentation, and interdisciplinary cultural research projects.

♦ Private Sector Opportunities

Professional opportunities are available in private sector museum and heritage organisations as curators, exhibition designers, collections managers, conservators, heritage managers, cultural resource managers, archivists, and museum educators in museums, galleries, cultural institutions, and conservation centres. IIH Graduates also get employment with heritage consultancy firms, tourism and cultural industries, publishing houses, auction houses, NGOs, etc.

♦ Competitive Examinations

Students may pursue careers in various public services, including civil services, tourism services, archival services, and teaching careers through government exams like UPSC etc.

♦ Media, Outreach and Public Engagement

The growing field of public archaeology and heritage communication has created opportunities in content writing, academic publishing, documentary research, film and media consultancy, heritage interpretation, cultural journalism, public awareness campaigns, digital archiving, heritage walks, and educational outreach programmes. Graduates may also work as documentary advisors, researchers, cultural presenters, and heritage communication specialists.

10. CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Admission office-** Assistant Registrar, Room no. 15, ground floor, IIH campus

- **Helpline numbers-** Superintendent +91 (0) 120-2975632 , Assistant Registrar- +91 (0) 120-2975617, +91 (0) 120-2975612
- **Email IDs**- Assistant Registrar- ara.nmi@gov.in
- **Website**- www.nmi.gov.in
- **Social media handles-**
    - Facebook- **https://www.facebook.com/NationalMuseumInstitute**
    - XCorp -**https://twitter.com/@iihnoida**
    - Instagram- **@indianinstituteofheritage**
- **Campus Location:** A-19, Institutional Area, Sector - 62, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh - 201309
- **Map:** Indian Institute of Heritage (IIH)