



Cairo University
Institute of African Research and Studies (IARS)
Professional Master Degree on Management of
African World Heritage
By Distance (E-Learning), in English
In Collaboration with the E-Learning Center,
Cairo University



Detailed Main Course Contents of the
Oct 2014 – Sep 2016
Course Contents

The World Heritage Convention and its institutional and legal aspects
 Introduction to distance learning - Historical introduction from antiquity to the present day - *Description de l'Egypte* – Ethics of conservation – Legal protection of heritage - Save the Monuments of Nubia Operation - an international agreement to safeguard the cultural and natural heritage in 1972 - the text of the Convention - the participation of Member States - the devices of the Convention and their functions – The World Heritage Committee: composition and functions – Finances of the Convention - Reports of Advisory Bodies - the benefits and responsibilities of associates - the relevance of the Convention to national laws - the work of the World Heritage Committee - the current WH List and the world's diversity – the World Heritage in Danger List - the reasons for the acceptance rejection of sites - Management of WH

sites & Preparation of Nomination Files - Restoration of the mummy of Ramses II - case study.

Guidelines of the Convention (in reference to originality and authenticity)

Current conditions reported in the first years of the Convention site – the ten criteria - guidelines documents in detail - the evolution of the guidelines documents since 1972 - Originality and authenticity - case study.

World Heritage and sustainable development (economic aspects of tourism)

The definition of sustainable development - the emergence of the idea - the international efforts to achieve SD - the role of UNESCO - the role of natural and cultural protection - its role in the fight against poverty – comparisons of various systems of protection of heritage sites - other protection systems (IUCN, Ramsar and the Man and the Biosphere " MAB " systems) - the role of the World Heritage Centre - Role of national and international media - the role of the education and the socio-economic system - the role of the private sector - the role of the tourism industry - the quality of tourists and their role - the role of the state and national and local organizations - case study.

World Heritage Sites in the Arab States and sub-Saharan Africa

Their geography – their features - management systems - reasons for inscription - borders and zonation - case study.

General geography of the Arab world and Africa

Geographical location - climate - land - rivers, lakes, coasts and seas - natural resources - urban and rural areas - the patterns of activity of the population - demographic , political , economic and cultural - language and culture - systems of governance - legal and administrative systems - local government - education systems - case study.

Geomorphology of the Arab world and Africa

The basic theories in geomorphology - the descriptive and quantitative study of the surface of the earth and the factors that affect it - erosion and sedimentation and the effect of wind, water, ice and waves - geomorphological maps of land use plans - geomorphology of deserts – beaches - effects on vegetation - examples of sites exhibiting geomorphology phenomena in the Arab world and Africa - case study

Geology of the Arab world and Africa

History of the planet - minerals and rocks - Cycle of recognizable minerals and rocks and - igneous rocks - the magma - volcanoes and earthquakes - weathering and soil formation - erosion - transport - sedimentary rocks - metamorphic rocks - structural geology and folds - the emergence of mountains - tectonic plates - groundwater - beaches - caves – case study

Soil Types of Arab and African countries

Factors of soil formation - main soil types - soil profile - physics and chemistry of the soil - soil biology - the water, carbon, nitrogen cycles - soil fertility - erosion - land use - soil models and the distribution of the human population - desertification - salinization - case study

Environment in the Arab World and Africa

Vegetation - Animal life - plant and animal biodiversity - ecosystems in the Arab World and Africa – Marine biodiversity - biogeography - biotechnology - environmental degradation – Bioindicators of ecosystem health - migratory species - unique and endangered species - invasive species - international efforts to preserve biodiversity - nature reserves - national systems for maintenance of environment and biodiversity - case study

Cultural sites (natural) World Heritage in the Arab world and Africa

Their geographies - Description - Management Systems - Reasons for inscription - zones and limits – geoparks – cultural landscapes - case study.

Preparing Tentative Lists of cultural (natural) World Heritage sites

Guidance Directives - Events: workshop in Amman (Jordan) May 2002 - Cairo meeting in February 2003 - Cape Town Meeting March 2005 - Abu Dhabi December 2005 meeting – Nara, Vienna, Berlin and Kazan declarations – Cairo 2010 twin Workshops - case study in detail

History and civilization of the Arab World and Africa

(1) The history of the Arab Mashreq : the Stone Age - the beginning of agriculture and grazing - Arab Mashreq civilizations before Islam - the advent of Islam and its cultural heritage

(2) History of Africa : the Stone Age - Rock Art - Bronze Age - Iron Age - the ancient kingdoms of Africa - the history of ancient Egypt - the former colonialism - the Christian era - the Arabs and Islam in Africa - colonialism of the age of the Renaissance - the scramble for Africa - the slave trade - the era of independence - a case study

The people of the Arab World and Africa

Arab tribes and their neighbors - the tribes of Africa - Great Migrations - indigenous tribal beliefs about heritage - folk arts of the Arab and African countries - case study

Conventions and international organizations working in the preservation and protection of cultural (natural) heritage

Hague Conventions - Heritage Convention - Athens - Venice - a document of international tourism - Document Bora - the 1970 Convention on illicit trade in cultural heritage UNESCO - Nara Declaration - the UNESCO Convention on Cultural Diversity 2001 – UNESCO Convention on Underwater Heritage - UNESCO

Convention for intangible Cultural Heritage in 2003 - Yamato Announcement – National laws and regulations of Arab and African countries for the protection of monuments (natural areas) - the role of civil society - ICOMOS and ICCROM (IUCN, MAB, Ramsar) - the African World Heritage Fund - case study

Threats to cultural heritage (natural) in the Arab world and Africa

(1) Human factors : population dynamics - projects for economic development - agriculture and food production projects - deforestation - urban growth - pollution - tourism and resorts - systems of government – interventions - populations at risk - case study

(2) Natural factors : desertification - erosion - earthquakes - volcanoes - deposition - floods - droughts - groundwater - climate change - pests - case study.

Dissertation (different for each Listener)

The learner will select a World Heritage site (inscribed, listed on the Tentative List, or potential, or a suitable cultural or natural site in the learner's country) in consultation with the Coordinator, and prepare a nomination file, a management plan, or a status report, with the help of the Coordinator and another supervising professor.



Justification:

Properties inscribed on the World Heritage List spontaneously become extensive tourist attractions and contribute to sustainable development of the country and the well-being of indigenous peoples.

The Table below shows the situation in African and Arab countries as regards their WH sites inscribed on the UNESCO List in 2011.

2011	Cultural	Natural	Mixed	Total	%
Africa	45	33	4	82	8.8 %
Arab States	64	4	2	70	7.5 %

The percentage of WH sites in Africa and Arab States in 2011 (16.3% of world total) was too small. These two regions, the poorest in sites, are paradoxically both ancient birthplaces of the world's civilizations and exceptionally rich in biodiversity and in

ecosystem diversity. They are both most in need of this WH Convention system for the conservation and rational exploitation of their natural and cultural wealth.

The 2 tables below show that after more than a decade, this weakness persists. Both African and Arab countries possess now in 2013 the least number of WH sites of all other world regions. Their percentage was still at 17%. At the same time they are burdened with the highest percentage of "WH Sites in Danger" than any other World region. As a matter of fact, so far, almost none of them were improved so as to allow being removed from "The in Danger List".

This weakness was felt as early as 2001 when the intergovernmental World Heritage Committee, which is the decision-making body of the Convention, reviewed the situation of each world region in its yearly meeting. Every 6 years the Committee examines the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the List of the different regions of the world. In 2001 and 2002 it reviewed the first reports of African and Arab countries. It turned out that these two regions have limited capacity for the proper management of their WH properties, due to lack of qualified personnel. Africa and Arab countries not only have the lowest proportions of properties inscribed globally, but also the majority of sites placed on the "in Danger List". This reveals a serious lack of experts that all parties involved must try to fill.

The 2002 WH Committee meeting noted that the weakness of the situation in both regions was due to the same causes mainly lack of trained personnel. It accordingly recommended cooperation between the African and Arab region countries in enhancing the situation of WH sites. However, in 2013 the situation did not advance:

Number of World Heritage Properties by region

Region	Cultural	Natural	Mixed	Total	%	No Countries
<u>Africa</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>9%</u>	<u>33</u>
<u>Arab States</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>8%</u>	<u>18</u>
Asia and the Pacific	154	57	10	221	23%	33
Europe and North America	399	60	10	469	48%	50
Latin America and the Caribbean	90	36	3	129	13%	26
<u>Total</u>	759	193	29	981	100%	160

List of World Heritage in Danger by Region

Region	Cultural	Natural	Mixed	Total	%
<u>Africa</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>36%</u>
<u>Arab States</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>27%</u>
Asia and the Pacific	2	2	0	4	9%
Europe and North America	4	1	0	5	11%
Latin America and the Caribbean	4	3	0	7	16%
<u>Total</u>	26	18	0	44	100%

Two expert workshops were held to discuss the issue of WH education in universities; one in Italy in 2002 and the other in Japan in 2003 on WH in University education. They issued proposals to improve the attitudes of universities towards making an effort to include studies of the management of World Heritage in their programs. In March 2005, the meeting of African World Heritage experts held near Cape Town in South Africa recommended establishing the African World Heritage Fund especially for boosting up the WH situation in Africa, including North Africa. This was immediately followed by the meeting of Arab World Heritage experts in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, in December 2005. This meeting issued a recommendation to establish a University Degree on World Heritage at Cairo University. Further on, both workshops on Harmonization of Tentative Lists of African countries, held in Cairo in March and May 2010, and made an appeal to African universities to establish degrees on the management of African World Heritage.

Consequently, Cairo University opted in 2011 for establishing at the Institute of African Research and Studies (IARS) a Professional Master Degree on Management of World Heritage in African and Arab countries, in Arabic and in English, by the distance learning method. It was officially established in 2013. This Master Degree is designed to serve the largest possible number of young African and Arab aspirants for careers in conservation and management not only of World Heritage properties, but all forms of protected areas in Africa and the Arab areas.

Currently, this Master Degree completes an integrated, ascending and imbricated 3-level WH studies program at IARS. The program comprises: (1) a 1-year face-to-face Diploma with 14 courses and no term paper, (2) the 2-year fully online Professional Master Degree with 8 courses in the 1st year and a dissertation in the 2nd year, and (3) an option for a Ph.D. in World Heritage with 10 face-to-face courses in the first year, plus a thesis of 2-4 years, which the learner can prepare at home, and come back to Cairo for 2 weeks for its defense. At present, IARS will focus on the Master program.

Objectives:

Cultural and natural heritage sites in African and Arab countries, although far from representing the antiquity of their cultures and the great diversity of their natural ecosystems, face a lot of threats due to both natural factors (e.g., climate change) and human-induced factors (e.g., deliberate destruction), at a time when these countries need to attract international tourists to visit these sites. Being an important asset for sustainable development, these sites suffer from an obvious weakness in inscription of new sites and in management of inscribed ones. Sustainable management of these sites will remain a crucial challenge of African and Arab countries if no university level training programs are put in place. Experience shows World Heritage experts should be familiar not only with technological knowledge, but also with the culture, language and politics of the 2 regions.

This Professional Master Programme therefore is designed to provide aspiring professionals in African and Arab countries and those who may be interested in other regions of the world, with technical and managerial knowledge in the establishment, management and conservation of the globally important cultural and sites in Africa of absolute Universal Value, as well as other types of protected areas (MAB Biosphere Reserves, Ramsar wetlands, IUCN type nature reserves) with intercultural connections. Both aspects are equally important when taking up leadership positions

in the management and benefits of the heritage sector and to work effectively in the framework of international cooperation.

Advantages:

Cairo University has successfully been undertaking its mission of delivering education, research and cultural commitments since 1908. It is the mother university among other younger universities in Egypt and the Arab World. Cairo University also offers education and research facilities to Arab and foreign students and scientists and has become well known worldwide. It is the top of 32 other Universities in Egypt. Three of its graduates obtained Nobel Prizes. Cairo University was featured in 2010 among the world's best educational institutions for the fifth year running, according to the British QS Top Universities ranking. The university ranked 147th in the fields of medicine, science, and biology, increasing its position by more than 50 points. It also ranked 210th in arts and humanities, and 258th in engineering and information technologies. Furthermore, Cairo University maintained its position as one of the world's best 500 universities in 2012, according to China's Shanghai University.

Cairo University is committed to preparing students for the challenges of a rapidly changing workplace. Through interactive learning and information technologies, our graduates enter the work force with the skills needed to succeed in today's global marketplaces. Cairo University currently has 25 faculties/institutes in different scientific disciplines, with total volume of about 250,000 students. Its Mission Statement: Enhance university capabilities and potentialities through developing its human and financial resources, as well as improving the academic abilities of its staff members and their assistants, in order to prepare them for the age of science and technological revolution. In this respect, the university has adapted unconventional methods to develop the system of academic studies and research in order to meet the needs of society and to enhance the capacities of its scholars and researchers.

The online Master courses about World Heritage offered by IARS extend the rigorous and engaging studies for which Cairo University is famous, to learners anywhere in the world, through distance learning. The learner is not obliged to leave home, family, or job for 2 years to improve career opportunities. The learner is spared travel and living expenses in another country. This Professional Master Degree accepts learners from all over the world, but primarily from African and Arab countries. Moreover, being in English, it will enable learners to apply for a job in any African or Arab country, or anywhere else in the world.

Compared with the training courses of short limited durations that are offered nowadays by several organizations, some free and some others at a certain cost, none of them will give 288 hours of courses plus 48 hours for exams that the Cairo University Master offers in the first year. In addition, none of them will give another 84 hours for preparing a dissertation in the second year. None of them will open the way for admission to a PhD track. A Master Degree gives the learner the satisfaction of knowing that the study did encompass the A to the Z of a given issue. It gives pride, trust, and unfettered recognition. It is the sure way to the respect of employers. However, if the learner has already obtained a certificate for attending a training course related to World Heritage, it will be a welcome asset for enrollment in the Master Degree, but not a condition.

Conditions for enrollment:

Holding a BA or a BSc with at least a "Good" mention, or equivalent, is the essential qualification. If the applicant presents a certificate of work in the field of cultural sites or in natural protected areas, the "Good" mention condition is waived. An adequate command of both English and computer arts is required.

Learning System:

The teaching for the 2014 promotion has been decided to be in English. Courses are structured as weekly online shows. The courses are designed to fit with your schedule; you access the courses whenever it is convenient for you. The learner will have to spend a minimum of 12 hours per week for the 12 hours of the 4 courses. The 12 hours of each week will be made available online during the whole week. They will be replaced by the 12 hours of the 4 courses of the following week, and so on till week 12. A new password will be given each week. Week 13 will be for the examinations and week 14 for the presentation and commentaries on the results. Attention is drawn to the fact that the number of credit hours for the courses follows the US system (i.e., equal to the numbers of hours/week). The courses of the first year are 4 obligatory in the first semester and 2 obligatory plus 2 facultative courses in the second semester. The 6 obligatory courses are for both Culture and Nature Sections. The 2 facultative courses are different for the 2 Sections (see schedule of courses as pdf). The 2 facultative courses should be selected by the learners in their application forms. Their teaching will depend on majority choices by the learners. The password is personal and should not be revealed to a third party. Any infraction of this system will lead to the suspension of courses without any compensation.

The second year will be for the preparation of a dissertation different for each learner, of 40,000 to 50,000 words (plus suitable graphics, i.e., 80-120 pages), preferably about a suitable site within the country of the learner. Professors from Egypt and from other countries will contribute to the lectures and to the supervision of dissertations. The manuscript of the dissertation will need to be accompanied by a recorded oral online presentation (e.g., a video). Marks will be given according to the appreciation of the Jury.

Fees:

When accepted for enrollment, fees for international learners are 3200 £ (UK Pounds Sterling) for the first Academic year to be paid in full before the beginning the start of the first Academic Year. For the second year fees are 1500 £ (UK Pounds Sterling), to be paid in full before the start of the second Academic Year. Try to compare these fees with what is required by other non-African universities. Please note that there is an additional obligatory sum of 25 £ to be paid upon submitting an application, for administrative handling of the dossier. Learners are encouraged, when accepted, to seek scholarships from funding agencies such as the African World Heritage Fund in South Africa and the Nordic Heritage Fund in Norway. This means that you should first constitute your application dossier, wait till you are given a positive response, and then proceed in looking for a scholarship. We, on our part, will seek scholarships for outstanding applicants. When requesting a scholarship, learners must be careful to ask for 4700 £ to cover the 2 years of study. Currencies other than UK Sterling Pounds are not accepted. No payment is refundable under any circumstances.

Therefore don't pay the 3200 £ till we inform you that you have been solidly accepted for the study. [You are not expected to ask a donor agency for the 25 £ of the application fees, because you can ask for a scholarship only when you are informed by us that your application has been accepted].

Equivalence of non-Egyptian certificates:

Please send your university qualifications, to seek their equivalence according to the Egyptian system, to the Supreme Council of Universities at:

http://www.scu.eun.eg/wps/portal!/ut/p/c0/04_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os_gg40ALD2czYwOD0GBTA08nP68AH08TY39XU_2CbEdFAMkB_uE!/

pubserv_admin@scu.eun.eg

Steps to equivalence of a non-Egyptian University degree

Documenting the required certificates to the equivalence

Please click on these links to apply for the equivalence

Firefox is advisable.

[الإطلاع على المستندات المطلوبة](#) For knowing the required documents
[توثيق الشهادات المطلوبة للمعادلة](#) For certification of requested equivalence
[لتقديم طلب للمعادلة](#) For submitting the application

Download documented testimonies and documents required on the site of the Egyptian Supreme Council of Universities (SCU).

<http://app.scu.eun.eg:9083/FrontOffice/instruction/introduction.faces>

Get the help of an Arabic speaking person to help you, or go to the Egyptian Embassy in your country.

The SCU will not be looking at the request of the equivalence in the case of non-download of all the required documents. Non-payment of the requested fees will result in neglect of the request. Payment may be by credit card or payment of the required amount in any branch of Banque Misr after printing the authorization of payment, which appears at the end of the program. The SCU will not respond to your request before 3 working days (the weekend is Friday and Saturday).

The applicant needs to submit the original certificates and documents required plus 2 photocopies stamped with original stamps by the Egyptian Embassy in your country. The original copies of the documents will be returned to the owner after comparing them with the photocopies for verification by the SCU. All originals and photocopies are to be submitted to the Office of Citizen Services of the Supreme Council of Universities immediately after applying to the electronic site.

Print a copy of the SCU system and submit it to the Supreme Council of Universities.

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General Remarks:

Provide certificates and documents in Arabic or in English. If in another language, they must be provided with a certified translation into Arabic or English. Certificates and documents submitted to the Council are not returned to the applicant, so the Council accepts the photocopies (in black and white) with live seals, while the parent documents are for review only and are returned when submitting the documents. In the case of obtaining the certificate from a branch of the University of the State located in another city not that of the headquarters of the State Mother University, you must attach a testimony stating that the Ministry of Higher Education of that country recognizes this outlier branch of the university and that the certificate holder is qualified for higher studies in the given country.

You can contact SCU by e-mail when there is a query: pubserv_admin@scu.eun.eg

To connect with technical support team of the SCU on the development of the electronic system of equivalences, please send an email to info.mis@heic.eg (reply within three business days). The certificate of equivalence is issued electronically and sent by express mail to the student's address of residence in Egypt (or the address of an agent on behalf of the student), within two months of acceptance of the application and completion of the requested documents and data.

Needs:

You need to be proficient in using a computer. A W-LAN compatible notebook for your work during this programme is needed. A notebook can easily be financed or leased within several months, if you haven't your own. The minimum operating system should be "Windows XP" so that it is possible to run different videos and deal with different websites and other tools.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How long will it take to acquire the Professional Master Degree?

This Master Degree is a professional outlook program designed to be completed in 24 months. Learners will be enrolled in 2 semesters of coursework for 9 months, followed by the writing and acceptance of a dissertation that can range in length from 10-12 months, depending on its subject and relevant expectations. Within 2-3 months after submission the dissertation will be evaluated. If it needs amendments, these should be terminated before end of September 2016. The total months of study should not exceed 24. Learners will graduate pending the evaluation and acceptance of this dissertation as a pdf manuscript. Additional program details can be found above.

How many classes will I be required to take each semester? Learners will be enrolled in 4 classes each semester for a total of courses of 12 credits/semester. This will fulfill the 24-credit coursework requirement. Each course will be given in 12 lectures (lessons) of 3 hours each. The lessons of the 4 courses (a total of 12 hours) will be made electronically available on a Sunday and removed on the next Sunday, to be replaced by the next 12 hour

courses. This will continue for 12 weeks. On week 13 the exams will be displayed. They will be made available on a Sunday evening for only three hours. Learners must give their answers immediately online. Results of the exams will be shown online on Sunday of week 14 during the whole week. As for the facultative courses, the student should give his/her choice on the Application Form. The courses will be decided by the Administration based on the majority choice. The course should begin in the first week of October 2014 *when at least 20 learners have applied and paid their full fees of 3225 Pounds Sterling for the first year of enrollment.*

2. Will I be responsible for identifying the subject of the dissertation on my own?

Yes, after you succeed in passing the exams of both the 1st and 2nd semesters, you will be able to identify your subject for the dissertation in consultation with the Administration. It is preferable that you work on a subject relevant to your own country. These include: WH sites already inscribed on the UNESCO List, particularly those on the Danger List, on the Tentative List, cultural landscapes, or considered potential sites, MAB Biosphere Reserves, Ramsar wetland sites, IUCN type nature reserves, or a suitable potential site of your own choice. The treatment should be primarily the preparation of a nomination file, a management plan, a rehabilitation plan, or a report on the conservation status of the site. You will be offered ample assistance and guidance via the Coordinator in coordination with other Academic Advisors in Egypt, in your own country, or anywhere else in the World. This is an advantage of E-learning; the Academic Advisor does not have to move from his home. We will provide a significant amount of professional guidance and support during your dissertation work and we will do our best to assist our learners in identifying a subject that will reflect their personal aptitudes and their professional goals.

Please remember that talk about the subject of the dissertation can start only after payment of the fees of the second year, which amount to 1500 UK Pounds Sterling.

3. Are research and/or teaching assistantships available for this program?

No, there is no teaching assistantship available at present to learners of this Master Degree. This Master Degree apart from being online is a self-funded degree program. However, we are seeking scholarships for you.

4. Are there scholarships available for this program?

No, there are no University scholarships available at this time for this Master program. However, with ample searching effort, you should be able to identify other national or international scholarships via the World Wide Web. A good place to start is the African World Heritage Fund in South Africa and the Nordic World Heritage Foundation. You may also try the FinAid website: www.finaid.org and this one for African learners: <http://www.scholars4dev.com/category/target-group/africans-scholarships/>

And for learners from developing countries in Africa and elsewhere:
<http://www.scholars4dev.com/category/target-group/any-developing-country-scholarships/>

5. Will I be able to work while being enrolled in this program?

The advantage of this Master Degree is that it is by distance (E-Learning). First, it does not oblige you to leave your home, your family, or your job. Many ex-patriate learners may find part-time employment locally in the host country to offset the costs of the program and living, which has a notoriously bad effect on their life. Second, you will be spared the travel and living expenses of staying 20 or more months in a foreign country. Thus, we do recommend that learners continue to work full-time, if employed, while enrolled for this online Master Degree.

6. Can I enroll part-time in the Master program?

You really don't need to enroll part-time in this Master program, as it is full-time study but in your own home.

7. Are there any other courses available online?

No, the Institute of African Research and Studies does not offer other online courses at this time.

8. What classes will I be taking while enrolled in this Master program?

Each degree program, or track, has specific requirements. The curricular and experiential structure of each track was designed by experts in the field, as well as leaders from experts of World Heritage in Egypt, Africa, Europe and UNESCO, as well as several NGOs and government and international organizations. Thus, you will be exposed to the theory and skills those experts felt were relevant and necessary to your development and professional success. There are 6 obligatory courses in each track, as well as 2 facultative courses. The facultative courses will reflect personal and professional interests and should be selected wisely. For curricula and options for facultative ones, please see attached pdf.

9. How do I apply?

You must submit the following before the deadline:

1. A filled in and signed application form (to be sent to you when you ask for it),
2. A 25 £ (UK Pounds Sterling) application fee (cheque made out to: "The Dean the Institute of African Research and Studies, WH Master"). No other currency is accepted.
3. A photocopy or scan of your birth certificate authenticated by the Egyptian Embassy in your country,
4. Photocopies or scans of the first pages of your passport,

5. Official original transcripts of your Bachelor Degree authenticated by the Egyptian Embassy in your country, or if with a "Pass" mention, a certificate of having worked in WH affairs for at least 5 years, also authenticated by the Egyptian Embassy in your country,
6. 6 personal colour 4x6 cm photos with white background,
7. A personal statement explaining why you apply, giving your choice of the 2 facultative courses,
8. 2 letters of recommendation from persons involved in WH affairs, stating the kind of their involvement.
9. A valid statement of the TOEFL exam,
10. The filled in Financial Responsibility Form (to be sent to you when you ask for it).

You can start this process right now according to the above instructions. When you are informed that your application is accepted, you'll have to send another similarly addressed cheque for 3200 Pounds Sterling for the first year, or seek a scholarship for this amount. Payment must be made on 31 August 2014 at the latest, in order for you to get your personal password for the courses before their start in October.

10. Is there a minimum mention score required for entry into the program?

The IARS World Heritage program requires a Bachelor Degree in Arts or Sciences with at least a "Good" mention score (70%). This "Good" mention condition is deferred if the student can provide a certificate of having worked in cultural or natural heritage affairs for at least five years.

11. Can I apply for more than one track/degree program?

No. According to Egyptian law, you cannot be enrolled in more than one degree study at a time. However, if you already a Master Degree that is accredited by the Egyptian Supreme Council of Universities (see above), you can enroll at one of the six Departments of the Institute of African Research and Studies of Cairo University for a Ph.D. program in a subject related to World Heritage or any subject of your choice. The six Departments are: Natural Resources (for natural science graduates), Politics and Economics, Geography, History, Anthropology, and Languages. You will have to attend 1-year qualifying courses, agree on the subject of a thesis, and go back home to write it, and then you come back for 2 weeks to defend it.

12. My application has been submitted, and I am waiting to hear back. When will I know if I've been accepted?

We cannot evaluate your application until it is complete. Your complete application should include the equivalence of your Bachelor Degree as obtained from the Egyptian Supreme Council of Universities. Application dossiers without this equivalence will not be examined by IARS. You should expect a response within 2-3 weeks. You should then pay the fees for the first year as soon as possible. Please do not pay the fees if you have any doubt about the fullness of your application dossier. If you have doubts or questions

about whether or not your application dossier is complete, or to check on the status of your application, you can contact the IARS-WH Coordinator Prof. Samir GHABBOUR: ghabbour_samir@hotmail.com before you start to constitute your dossier or to pay the fees. Application evaluations of complete files will begin on the first of January 2014 and continue till July 15th 2014. Please be careful to apply as early as possible for 2 important reasons: (1) to apply in good enough time before closure so that we can advise you soon, and (2) to have enough time to get a scholarship before the start of the courses in early October 2014.

13. Based upon my undergraduate degree and relevant coursework, what degree programs/tracks am I eligible for?

As long as you have successfully completed the relevant pre-requisites, you are eligible for the study of this PM (*i.e.*, regardless of your major). Arts Degrees will enroll for the "Culture Section", while Science majors will enroll for the "Nature Sector". After having obtained the Professional Master Degree with at least a "Good" mention, you can apply for enrollment in the IARS Ph.D. program as explained in paragraph 11 above. In this case it would be preferable to register for the thesis in a WH related subject.

14. Are there chances for February (second semester) enrollment?

February (second semester) enrollment is not available. If you cannot enroll for October 2014 you'll have to wait for the second Promotion in October 2016. But if you already possess a Master Degree and it is accredited by the Egyptian Supreme Council of Universities, and accepted by IARS as suitable for African studies, you can enroll for a Ph.D. track as explained above some time before the start of any one of the 2 semesters for courses of either October or February (first and second) semesters. Registration for the subject of a thesis is possible only after having passed the courses of the 2 semesters.

15. What is the difference between the Professional Master (PM) Program and a traditional Master degree?

This a good question. For starters, a Master of Science (MS) degree typically requires a 1-year qualification courses and 2-3 year time commitment for a thesis, whereas the Professional Master degree is designed to be completed in at most 24 months. In addition, the traditional Master is based on a freely selected and independent research project, or thesis, while the PM is multi-disciplinary aligned to building skills and is practically based. The primary focus of the PM is to provide learners with industry-relevant, multi-disciplinary skills that are necessary to acquire and perform well in various employment settings related to conservation and management of World Heritage sites and other forms of protected areas (MAB Biosphere Reserves, Ramsar Wetlands, IUCN-type Nature Reserves). Although learners will not necessarily be conducting independent free research, they will be exposed to research and develop their analytic, writing, and speaking skills in the field of conservation and management. The dissertation experience is a contributory one, in that learners are asked to provide substantial logistical, developmental,

management, and or regulatory knowledge and feedback to the hosting organization. So, it is literally, a “real-world” experience and opportunity to apply the theory and knowledge they have gained in residence of the first year's 8 courses in a relevant setting.

16. What types of jobs do Learners with a Professional Master on World Heritage degree could attain?

Most learners may be already working in various types of protected areas under one or more of the 4 systems given in the previous section. For job-seeking learners they will be highly qualified when applying for a similar job, either in the field or in the administration. They will be eligible to become either resource managers and/or policy makers, and many of them will be able to work with government agencies, NGOs, and environmental consulting groups, travel agencies, tourist guides, etc. Some learners may be employed by their national organizations after the termination of their Degree, and the potential for this is something we consider heavily in the identification of and commitment to specific dissertations. Those learners already employed by public or private sector organizations, will have a considerable chance and priority for moving up in the ranks.

17. What is the deadline for the October 2014 enrollment?

The deadline for the October 2014 enrollment is July 1st 2014. We begin accepting and evaluating applications from January 1st 2014. All applications received after January 1st will be evaluated one by one through July 1st 2014.

18. Are there additional application requirements for international learners?

International Learners must also submit a statement of the TOEFL exam and complete the Financial Responsibility Form (attached).

19. Who has to take the TOEFL exam?

Students whose native language is not English and/or did not follow a university degree conducted in English must sit for of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). International applicants must submit official results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). An exception to this rule is the international student who has earned a degree, or has completed a substantial amount of coursework, at an English-speaking country or a British Commonwealth country (current Commonwealth members, current suspended members, former members, British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies).

A minimum score of 450 (paper-based test), 210 (computer-based test), 79 for the iBT (internet-based test) is required for admission to the Master Degree. Please check that if you have already obtained the required TOEFL score, to be sure that it remains valid for a period of two years.

20. What is the visa process for international learners?

You don't need an entry visa to Egypt as this PM program is entirely online.

21. Is a health insurance required?

No, you don't need a health insurance as this PM program is entirely online.

22. What is meant by "dissertation"?

A dissertation for this Master Degree is a text written by the Learner, under guidance of 2 professors, showing ability to tackle an issue related to World Heritage (or similar protected areas), preferably in the Learner's own country, based on what capacities were acquired during the first year of courses. It should be between 60 and 100 pages (or approximately 50,000 to 90,000 words, apart from figures and photos). Notes will be given according to the evaluation of the 2 professor-advisors.

Contact:

We invite you to contact us so that we know about your desires and can work for your interest, and also to inform you about any new developments, and give you further information.

Please contact: Prof. Samir GHABBOUR, IARS-WH Coordinator

at: ghabbour_samir@hotmail.com

Remember: This is a Master Degree that you can trust!

Remember: This is a Master Degree you can be proud of!

BEST WISHES!