

ICOM-IMREC MA Scholarship Communication Approach

Greetings, Prospective Students!

We are delighted to announce the opening of admissions for our fully-funded¹ Master's in Museum Studies at Shanghai University. If you have a passion for museums and cultural heritage, this is the perfect opportunity for you!

ICOM-IMREC (the International Museum Research and Exchange Centre) and Shanghai University are offering up to 10 fully funded scholarships for successful applicants to undertake 3-year Master's Degree within the School of Cultural Heritage and Information Management at Shanghai University. The process is competitive so please read the following information carefully.

Program Introduction

The Master's degree in Museum Studies prepares students for careers in museums and a variety of cultural heritage organizations. Shanghai University's program in Museum Studies aligns with major cultural developments in national and local institutions, emphasizing practical work in museums. It aims to build an academic discipline and professional practice with new concepts, new perspectives, and new methods in the context of localizing global knowledge. Every year, the program invites renowned experts from around the world to offer specialized courses, actively recommends graduate students to participate in relevant academic conferences domestically and internationally and fosters graduates who combine a broad international perspective with the capacity to serve the local community. The program is offered by The School of Cultural Heritage and Information Management, with opportunities to explore interdisciplinary courses in archaeology, archival studies, digital humanities, and information sciences.

Students are encouraged to explore thesis research directions including but not limited to:

Museological Theory

Museum Display and Exhibitions

Museum Education

¹ The fully-funded scholarship will cover full tuition for three years for all scholarship recipients. The financial support provided for accommodation and the living stipend is means-tested. The final amount may vary depending on the competitiveness of the applicant cohort in the given year, the applicants' financial circumstances, and the size of the available scholarship pool. Recipients may receive on-campus accommodation with a limited living stipend, or receive an equivalent housing allowance, subject to a maximum limit, if they choose to live off-campus.

Core Curriculum:

Theories and Methods in Museology

Museum exhibition Studies

Studies of Public Education in Museums

The New Museology

Archaeological Theories and Methods

Materials for Conservation

Students can also choose electives such as cultural heritage, conservation, archaeology, archival studies, and information management.

Program Instructors:

Professors: Laishun An, Shouyong Pan, Mingbin Li.

Associate Professor: Yang Huang, Siyi Wang.

Lecturer: Kaiyun Hu.

Program Requirements:

Students are generally expected to complete their credits and obtain the degree in three years. A typical study plan for the student would require spending the first year taking most of the required courses, the second year completing an internship, field study, or research projects, and the third year completing the graduate thesis.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicants must be non-Chinese citizens with a valid personal ordinary-type passport and in good health both mentally and physically.
- Applicants must hold a Bachelor's degree.
- The language of instruction is English; for students whose native language is not English, IELTS, TOEFL or Duolingo scores as language proficiency requirements are necessary. (IELTS 6.5/TOEFL 90/ Duolingo 120)
- Target Cohort: Members of ICOM.
- Applicants must provide a letter of recommendation from one ICOM member.

MA Scholarship Application Process Timeline:

Notice: For Further Information or assistance with the application process, please contact Mr. SONG from The School of Cultural Heritage and Information Management at hsong@shu.edu.cn or Ms. LIU from the Shanghai University International Students Admission Office at apply5@oa.shu.edu.cn.

Phase 1: Admission Opens (Dec. 2025 – February 2026):

-In December 2025, the SHU Admission Website will release the admission guide and the online application system opens.

-To apply, please visit the link:

apply.shu.edu.cn/program/index?language=en&category_id=11

and choose Museum Studies under the offerings of School of Cultural Heritage and Information Management. Then choose **APPLY**.

Step 1:

- Register an account using your own email.
- Complete the online application form.
- Upload necessary materials.
- Choose your preferred mentors from the list of SHU Program Instructors.
- Complete preliminary tests.
- The deadline for application will be February 15th 2026.

Step 2:

- Within 7 days after submitting your application, SHU will conduct an initial review of your application.

Step 3:

- The School of Cultural Heritage and Information Management will confirm receipt of the application.

Phase 2: Application Review (March - June 2026):

-During April and May 2026, the ICOM IMREC Academic and Programming Board will review all candidates and finalize the list of scholarship recipients. By June, SHU will complete its internal application review.

-In June 2026, SHU Admission Office will confirm the scholarship recipients.

Phase 3: Confirmation of Enrollment (July - Sept 2026):

-The Admission Office will send out official offers and guide the visa process for accepted students.

We look forward to welcoming you to Shanghai University and guiding you on your journey in the world of Museum Studies!

ICOM-IMREC

School of Cultural Heritage and Information Management, Shanghai University, China

