



Certificate Program in Cultural Heritage Research, Stewardship, and Restitution

The Waystation’s Graduate Certificate Program prepares students to engage directly with the ethical, legal, and practical dimensions of cultural heritage protection, repatriation, and restitution. Students work hands-on with physical objects housed in the UCLA Waystation — a stewardship facility for cultural objects whose provenance, future care, and return trajectories are under active investigation.

Program Requirements (16 units total, completed in 1–3 academic years)

Component	Units	Quarter	Key Notes
Core Course	4	Fall, Year 1	Required first quarter. Students are assigned a Waystation object that anchors all subsequent work.
Materials Analysis Lab	4	Winter (after core)	Must follow the core course and precede the capstone. Hands-on analysis of the student’s assigned objects.
Outside (Elective) Course	4	Flexible	One course relevant to the program or assigned objects. Course approval required.
Waystation Workshops (2 required)	2	Ongoing*	1 unit per workshop; 3–4 offered per year.
Capstone Project	2	Last**	Must be the final component completed; typically spring quarter.
Total	16		Completed within 1–3 academic years. B+ or higher required in all components.

* Units for workshops can be completed during the capstone quarter.

** The capstone may be taken in any quarter, provided all other courses — including the Materials Analysis Lab — are finished first.

Note for faculty who may be teaching relevant courses: we are happy to add additional offerings to the approved list. Please reach out to let us know about your course.

Enrollment Timeline

Students may complete the program in one year or spread requirements across up to three years. A checkmark indicates an eligible window — not a required year.

Requirement	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Core Course (Fall)	✓ required	—	—
Materials Analysis Lab (Winter)	✓ after core	✓	✓
Outside Departmental Course	✓	✓	✓
Waystation Workshops (2 req.)	✓	✓	✓
Capstone Project	✓	✓	✓

Please contact us at waystation@ioa.ucla.edu with any questions

Any UCLA graduate student can apply for the Certificate Program in Cultural Heritage Research, Stewardship, and Restitution

To apply, go to https://sscucla.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0rE2YiLDmDa1VzM