

# ICTQual AB



## Qualification Specification

### ICTQual Level 6 Diploma in Taxidermy and Animal Preservation Techniques



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# ICTQual AB's

## Level 6 Diploma in Taxidermy and Animal Preservation Techniques

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## Qualification Specification about

# ICTQual Level 6 Diploma in Taxidermy and Animal Preservation Techniques

### About ICTQual AB's

ICTQual AB is a distinguished awarding body based in the United Kingdom, dedicated to fostering excellence in education, training, and skills development. Committed to global standards, ICTQual AB's provides internationally recognized qualifications that empower individuals and organizations to thrive in an increasingly competitive world. Their offerings span diverse industries, including technical fields, health and safety, management, and more, ensuring relevance and adaptability to modern workforce needs.

ICTQual AB's delivers high-quality educational solutions through a network of Approved Training Centres worldwide. Their robust standards and innovative teaching methodologies equip learners with practical knowledge and skills for personal and professional growth. With a mission to inspire lifelong learning and drive positive change, ICTQual AB's continuously evolves its programs to stay ahead of industry trends and technological advancements.

### Course Overview

The ICTQual Level 6 Diploma in Taxidermy and Animal Preservation Techniques is a prestigious, advanced vocational qualification designed for professionals seeking mastery in the art and science of animal preservation. Building upon previous levels of study, this program allows learners to refine their expertise in specialized preservation methods, complex anatomical reconstruction, and innovative exhibition design. By integrating scientific precision with artistic creativity, the course empowers learners to produce museum-quality specimens while emphasizing ethical responsibility, cultural awareness, and the global significance of biodiversity and heritage conservation.

#### Course Aims

The primary aims of this diploma are to:

- **Elevate Professional Standards:** Provide an advanced educational pathway for practitioners to achieve mastery in taxidermy, conservation, and cultural heritage practices.
- **Foster Leadership:** Cultivate leadership, consultancy, and research skills to prepare graduates to manage workshops, lead large-scale conservation projects, and drive innovation in the field.
- **Promote Ethical and Cultural Responsibility:** Instill a deep understanding of the ethical considerations and cultural awareness necessary for the preservation of global biodiversity and heritage.

- **Enable Career Progression:** Equip learners with the strategic decision-making skills and technical excellence required for senior roles and higher vocational progression.

## Key Objectives

Upon successful completion of this qualification, learners will be able to:

- **Apply Advanced Techniques:** Execute highly specialized preservation methods for rare and exotic species.
- **Reconstruct Complex Anatomy:** Demonstrate mastery in complex anatomical reconstruction with both scientific accuracy and artistic merit.
- **Design Innovative Exhibitions:** Develop and execute innovative exhibition designs for museum-quality specimens.
- **Lead Conservation Projects:** Successfully manage taxidermy workshops, oversee conservation initiatives, and provide independent consultancy.

## Targeted Audience

This Level 6 Diploma is specifically designed for:

- **Experienced Taxidermists:** Professionals looking to elevate their existing skills to a mastery level and tackle complex, rare, or exotic specimens.
- **Museum and Heritage Professionals:** Curators, conservationists, and exhibition designers seeking advanced technical knowledge in animal preservation and display.
- **Zoological Institution Staff:** Individuals working in zoos or wildlife organizations who are responsible for anatomical preservation and educational exhibits.
- **Conservation Leaders and Consultants:** Practitioners aiming to move into senior management, workshop leadership, or independent consultancy roles within the conservation and preservation sectors.
- **Vocational Scholars:** Individuals seeking a formal, high-level qualification to bridge the gap toward further academic or higher vocational progression in related scientific or artistic fields.

## Certification Framework

|                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Qualification title      | ICTQual Level 6 Diploma in Taxidermy and Animal Preservation Techniques                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Course ID                | WQ0001                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Total Qualification Time | 600 Hours                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Guided Learning Hours    | 300 Hours                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Grading Type             | Pass / Fail                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Competency Evaluation    | Coursework / Assignments / Verifiable Experience                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Assessment               | <p>The assessment and verification process for ICTQual AB's qualifications involves two key stages:</p> <p><b>Internal Assessment and Verification:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Conducted by the staff at the Approved Training Centre (ATC) to ensure learners meet the required standards through continuous assessments.</li><li>✓ Internal Quality Assurance (IQA) is carried out by the centre's IQA staff to validate the assessment process.</li></ul> <p><b>External Quality Assurance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Managed by ICTQual AB's verifiers, who periodically review the centre's assessment and IQA processes.</li></ul> <p>Verifies that assessments are conducted to the required standards and ensures consistency across centres</p> |

## Entry Requirements

To enrol in ICTQual Level 6 Diploma in Taxidermy and Animal Preservation Techniques, learner must meet the following entry requirements:

- ✓ **Age Requirement:** Learners must be at least 19 years old at the time of enrollment.
- ✓ **Educational Background:** Completion of the ICTQual Level 5 Diploma in Taxidermy and Animal Preservation Techniques or an equivalent advanced vocational qualification in animal care, biology, conservation, or cultural heritage is strongly recommended.
- ✓ **Professional Experience:** Learners should have extensive hands-on experience in advanced taxidermy projects, museum collection management, or conservation work. Prior leadership or consultancy experience in the field is highly advantageous.
- ✓ **English Proficiency:** Strong command of English is required to engage with complex course materials, conduct research, and produce professional reports. Equivalent proficiency in other languages may be accepted for international learners.



## Qualification Structure

This qualification comprises 6 mandatory units, totalling 60 Credits. Candidates must successfully complete all mandatory units to achieve the qualification.

| Mandatory Units |                                                          |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Unit Ref#       | Unit Title                                               |
| WQ0001-01       | Research and Development in Taxidermy Science            |
| WQ0001-02       | Advanced Skeletal Reconstruction and Anatomical Accuracy |
| WQ0001-03       | Leadership in Conservation and Preservation Projects     |
| WQ0001-04       | Application of Technology in Modern Taxidermy            |
| WQ0001-05       | International Standards in Museum and Collection Care    |
| WQ0001-06       | Independent Specialist Project in Taxidermy              |

## Centre Requirements

To ensure quality training delivery, centres must adhere to the following standards:

### 1. Centre Approval

- ✓ Centres must be formally approved by ICTQual AB's before delivering this qualification.
- ✓ Approval involves a review of facilities, policies, and staff qualifications.

### 2. Qualified Staff

- ✓ **Tutors:** Must possess relevant academic qualifications and professional experience in advanced taxidermy, animal preservation, or museum conservation, while demonstrating strong knowledge of complex anatomical reconstruction, specialized preservation methods, and ethical heritage standards alongside effective teaching and assessment skills.
- ✓ **Assessors:** Must hold a recognized assessor qualification (e.g., CAVA, AVRA) or equivalent)
- ✓ **Internal Quality Assurers (IQAs):** Must hold a recognized IQA qualification (e.g. Level 4 Award in the IQA and Level 4 Certificate in Leading the IQA) and experience to oversee assessment standards.

### 3. Learning Facilities

**Centre must offer:**

- ✓ Private study areas and internet-enabled workspaces (for blended or physical delivery)
- ✓ Academic and pastoral support for learners
- ✓ Administrative support must be available to manage enrolment, tracking, and learner queries efficiently

### 4. Health and Safety Compliance

- ✓ All training facilities must comply with health and safety regulations.
- ✓ Centres must conduct regular risk assessments for practical activities.

### 5. Learning Resources

- ✓ **Course Materials:** Approved textbooks, study guides, and digital content must align with the qualification standards.
- ✓ **Assessment Tools:** Templates and guidelines must be provided to ensure standardized evaluation processes.

- ✓ **E-Learning Support:** Centres offering online or blended learning must implement an effective Learning Management System (LMS).

## 6. Assessment and Quality Assurance

- ✓ Centres must ensure assessments meet ICTQual AB's competency standards.
- ✓ Internal quality assurance (IQA) must be conducted to maintain consistency.
- ✓ External verifiers from ICTQual AB's will review assessment and training practices.

## 7. Learning Support

- ✓ **Qualification Guidance:** Support for coursework and assignments.
- ✓ **Career Pathway Assistance:** Information on progression opportunities in taxidermy, animal preservation, or museum conservation sectors.
- ✓ **Accessibility Support:** Accommodations for learners with disabilities or language barriers.

## 8. Policies and Compliance

Centres must uphold the following policies in accordance with ICTQual AB's standards:

- ✓ Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy.
- ✓ Health and Safety Policy.
- ✓ Safeguarding and Learner Protection Policy.
- ✓ Complaints and Appeals Procedure.
- ✓ Data Protection and Confidentiality Policy.

## 9. Reporting Requirements

- Centres must provide ICTQual AB's with regular reports on learner registrations, progress, and certification outcomes.
- Assessment records must be maintained for external auditing and quality assurance purposes.

## Support for Candidates

Centres should ensure that materials developed to support candidates:

- ✓ Facilitate tracking of achievements as candidate's progress through the learning outcomes and assessment criteria.
- ✓ Include information on how and where ICTQual AB's policies and procedures can be accessed.
- ✓ Provide mechanisms for Internal and External Quality Assurance staff to verify and authenticate evidence effectively.

This approach ensures transparency, supports candidates' learning journeys, and upholds quality assurance standards.

## Assessment

This qualification is competence-based, requiring candidates to demonstrate high-level strategic proficiency as defined in the qualification units. The assessment evaluates the candidate's skills, knowledge, and understanding against the set standards. Key details include:

### Assessment Process:

- Must be conducted by an experienced and qualified assessor.
- Candidates compile a portfolio of evidence that satisfies all learning outcomes and assessment criteria for each unit.

### Types of Evidence:

- Assignments, detailed research projects, or strategic reports.
- Professional discussions.
- Candidate-produced strategic work (e.g., policy drafts, financial models).
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).

### Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria:

- **Learning Outcomes:** Define what candidates should know, understand, or accomplish upon completing the unit.
- **Assessment Criteria:** Detail the standards candidates must meet to demonstrate that the learning outcomes have been achieved.



## Unit Descriptors

### WQ0001-01- Research and Development in Taxidermy Science

This unit enables learners to engage in high-level inquiry into preservation methodologies and material science. Participants will investigate emerging chemicals, sustainable mounting materials, and innovative tanning processes. By conducting rigorous research and data analysis, learners contribute to the evolution of taxidermy practices, ensuring the field adapts to modern scientific findings while addressing contemporary challenges in biological preservation and specimen longevity.

| Learning Outcome: | Assessment Criteria: |
|-------------------|----------------------|
|-------------------|----------------------|

- |                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Conduct advanced research to innovate preservation and mounting techniques.         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.1 Critically evaluate current mounting and preservation techniques to identify technical limitations and areas requiring innovation.</li><li>1.2 Design and justify a structured research project to investigate new materials, chemical agents, or preservation methods.</li><li>1.3 Implement research-based adaptations to existing mounting procedures for complex or atypical anatomical structures.</li><li>1.4 Analyse experimental and research data to assess the effectiveness of innovative preservation approaches. Justify selected innovations using scientific evidence, technical feasibility, and long-term preservation impact.</li></ul> |
| 2. Apply scientific methods to evaluate effectiveness of taxidermy practices.          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2.1 Apply controlled scientific testing methods to assess chemical stability and biological resistance of preserved specimens.</li><li>2.2 Analyse quantitative and qualitative data from preservation experiments to evaluate tanning and curing methods.</li><li>2.3 Compare traditional and modern taxidermy techniques using evidence-based scientific evaluation. Evaluate reliability and validity of scientific results to determine their applicability in improving preservation standards.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                |
| 3. Document findings in professional reports suitable for conservation and museum use. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3.1 Produce structured technical reports detailing research methodology, observations, and experimental outcomes.</li><li>3.2 Present scientific data in formats aligned with international conservation and museum documentation standards.</li><li>3.3 Develop evidence-based recommendations for specimen preservation, storage, and long-term maintenance strategies.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

- 4. Critically analyse emerging trends to improve global standards in taxidermy.
  - 4.1 Investigate emerging technologies such as digital imaging, 3D modelling, and scanning in modern preservation practices.
  - 4.2 Evaluate the impact of technological advancements on global taxidermy and conservation standards.
  - 4.3 Synthesise international research to propose improvements in ethical and professional guidelines.
  - 4.4 Critically analyse the role of sustainable and eco-friendly materials in long-term preservation effectiveness.
  - 4.5 Evaluate cultural and professional differences influencing global taxidermy methodologies.
  - 4.6 Discuss future implications of technological and ethical trends on conservation science and museum practice.

WQ0001-02- Advanced Skeletal Reconstruction and Anatomical Accuracy

Focusing on the intersection of osteology and art, this unit explores the intricate processes of cleaning, articulating, and mounting complex skeletal structures. Learners will master biomechanical principles to ensure anatomical precision in varied poses. The unit emphasizes the reconstruction of rare species, requiring a profound understanding of comparative anatomy to create scientifically accurate and aesthetically compelling displays for educational or museum environments.

| Learning Outcome:                                                                      | Assessment Criteria:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Perform complex skeletal reconstructions with precision and anatomical correctness. | <div>1.1 Critically analyse skeletal morphology to ensure correct alignment of complex joints and detailed bone structures.</div> <div>1.2 Execute the reconstruction of fragmented or damaged skeletal remains using advanced assembly and precision mounting techniques.</div> <div>1.3 Evaluate the structural integrity and stability of completed skeletal reconstructions for long-term display or scientific study.</div> <div>1.4 Justify anatomical positioning of bone groups using species-specific biological data and validated anatomical references.</div>                                                                                                       |
| 2. Apply advanced anatomical knowledge to achieve lifelike specimen presentation.      | <div>2.1 Synthesize comparative anatomical data to recreate natural posture, movement, and dynamic positioning of species.</div> <div>2.2 Apply knowledge of muscle attachment points and soft tissue mapping to ensure anatomically accurate skeletal alignment.</div> <div>2.3 Critically evaluate reconstructed specimens against biological benchmarks to ensure realism and anatomical accuracy.</div> <div>2.4 Determine appropriate articulation angles that reflect natural behaviour, locomotion, and species-specific movement patterns.</div>                                                                                                                        |
| 3. Utilize specialized tools and materials for accurate skeletal alignment.            | <div>3.1 Select and apply precision tools for cleaning, drilling, and preparing delicate bone structures.</div> <div>3.2 Critically evaluate adhesives, internal supports, and mounting systems for suitability based on bone density and structural requirements.</div> <div>3.3 Implement advanced measurement techniques and alignment jigs to ensure proportional and symmetrical accuracy during assembly.</div> <div>3.4 Assess the chemical and physical impact of materials used on long-term preservation and specimen stability.</div> <div>3.5 Justify the selection of tools and materials in relation to reconstruction accuracy and conservation standards.</div> |

## **4. Evaluate reconstructed specimens for scientific and educational integrity.**

- 4.1 Critically appraise completed reconstructions against scientific accuracy requirements for research and educational use.
- 4.2 Analyse the educational effectiveness of the reconstruction in communicating anatomical structure to academic and public audiences.
- 4.3 Validate reconstructed specimens against verified scientific illustrations and museum-grade anatomical standards.

**WQ0001-03- Leadership in Conservation and Preservation Projects**

This unit prepares learners for senior management roles within large-scale preservation initiatives. It covers strategic planning, team coordination, and the ethical management of specimen archives. Learners will develop skills in resource allocation, stakeholder communication, and project oversight, ensuring that preservation projects meet international quality benchmarks while promoting the sustainable protection of cultural and natural heritage through effective institutional leadership.

| Learning Outcome:                                                                    | Assessment Criteria:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Lead multidisciplinary teams in conservation and preservation initiatives.        | <div>1.1 Critically evaluate the roles, expertise, and professional strengths within multidisciplinary teams to ensure effective task allocation.</div> <div>1.2 Implement advanced communication strategies to coordinate collaboration between scientists, curators, and preservation specialists.</div> <div>1.3 Manage complex group dynamics and resolve professional conflicts to maintain productivity and project focus.</div> <div>1.4 Demonstrate leadership by mentoring junior staff and guiding application of advanced conservation and preservation methodologies.</div> |
| 2. Implement strategic planning for large-scale taxidermy and conservation projects. | <div>2.1 Develop comprehensive project management plans incorporating resource allocation, technical scheduling, and long-term preservation objectives.</div> <div>2.2 Critically analyse risks, environmental influences, and operational constraints that may impact project success.</div> <div>2.3 Adapt and refine strategic workflows to manage unforeseen challenges and dynamic project conditions.</div> <div>2.4 Justify selection of methodologies, technologies, and materials based on feasibility, sustainability, and conservation standards.</div>                      |
| 3. Apply leadership skills to ensure compliance with ethical and legal standards.    | <div>3.1 Critically interpret international legislation and local regulations to ensure full legal compliance in specimen handling and preservation.</div> <div>3.2 Apply advanced ethical reasoning to resolve complex issues relating to specimen sourcing and cultural sensitivity.</div> <div>3.3 Implement quality assurance systems to ensure compliance with ethical codes and professional conservation standards.</div> <div>3.4 Translate legal and ethical requirements into clear operational procedures for team implementation.</div>                                     |

## **4. Assess project outcomes to improve efficiency and conservation impact.**

- 4.1 Critically evaluate project outcomes against original scientific, educational, and conservation objectives.
- 4.2 Analyse operational efficiency, technical processes, and resource utilisation to identify improvement opportunities in large-scale projects.
- 4.3 Develop comprehensive post-project evaluations documenting impact, lessons learned, and recommendations for future conservation initiatives.



**WQ0001-04- Application of Technology in Modern Taxidermy**

Learners will explore the integration of cutting-edge digital tools within the preservation workflow. This unit covers the use of 3D scanning, additive manufacturing for mold making, and digital anatomical modeling to enhance precision. By blending traditional craftsmanship with modern technology, participants learn to improve efficiency and accuracy, producing specimens that meet the high-tech demands of contemporary museum exhibitions and digital archives.

| Learning Outcome:                                                                    | Assessment Criteria:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Integrate digital tools and imaging technologies into advanced preservation work. | <div>1.1 Critically evaluate high-resolution digital imaging techniques for documenting specimen condition and supporting restoration of biological structures.</div> <div>1.2 Implement digital mapping systems to capture precise anatomical measurements and surface texture data prior to preservation procedures.</div> <div>1.3 Analyse the use of diagnostic imaging technologies (e.g. CT, X-ray) to interpret internal skeletal and muscular structures non-invasively.</div> <div>1.4 Determine and justify the selection of appropriate digital software systems for managing complex preservation data and visual archives.</div> <div>1.5 Evaluate the effectiveness of digital imaging integration in improving accuracy, efficiency, and documentation quality in preservation workflows.</div>                                      |
| 2. Apply 3D modelling and scanning for anatomical accuracy and specimen replication. | <div>2.1 Utilise advanced 3D laser scanning technologies to generate highly accurate digital models of fragile or rare anatomical specimens.</div> <div>2.2 Apply 3D modelling software to design custom-fit internal mannequins based on precise anatomical proportions derived from scan data.</div> <div>2.3 Critically assess the dimensional accuracy of 3D-printed skeletal components against original biological structures.</div> <div>2.4 Synthesize scanning data to produce scientifically accurate scaled replicas for educational and research applications.</div> <div>2.5 Evaluate limitations and tolerances in 3D reproduction processes and their impact on anatomical fidelity.</div> <div>2.6 Justify the integration of 3D technologies in preservation practice based on accuracy, efficiency, and conservation value.</div> |

**3. Utilise modern materials and equipment to enhance sustainability and durability.**

- 3.1 Critically analyse the performance of synthetic resins and polymers compared with traditional preservation materials in long-term stability.
- 3.2 Implement eco-friendly and non-toxic chemical alternatives in tanning and curing processes to improve environmental sustainability.
- 3.3 Evaluate the durability of archival-grade materials under varying environmental conditions such as light exposure and humidity fluctuations.
- 3.4 Select and apply advanced preservation equipment (e.g. vacuum freeze dryers, laser cutting systems) to enhance precision and longevity.
- 3.5 Justify material and equipment choices based on performance, sustainability, and conservation standards compliance.

**4. Evaluate technological innovations for their impact on professional practice.**

- 4.1 Critically review the cost-benefit implications of adopting emerging technologies within professional taxidermy and conservation environments.
- 4.2 Analyse the impact of transitioning from traditional techniques to digital workflows on authenticity, craftsmanship, and specimen value.
- 4.3 Synthesize global technological trends to propose updated professional standards incorporating AI and automation in preservation practice.
- 4.4 Evaluate ethical considerations associated with advanced replication technologies such as 3D printing in conservation contexts.
- 4.5 Assess the influence of technological innovation on professional roles and required skill development in the conservation sector.
- 4.6 Critically examine risks associated with over-reliance on digital systems in scientific preservation workflows.
- 4.7 Justify recommendations for responsible adoption of emerging technologies in alignment with museum ethics and conservation principles.

**WQ0001-05- International Standards in Museum and Collection Care**

This unit provides a comprehensive overview of global protocols for the ethical handling, storage, and display of animal specimens. Learners will examine international safety legislation, biodiversity regulations, and CITES requirements. The curriculum emphasizes environmental control, pest management, and archival documentation, ensuring that graduates can maintain collections to the highest professional standards required by global institutions and regulatory bodies.

| Learning Outcome:                                                                        | Assessment Criteria:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Apply global conservation standards to manage museum collections effectively.         | <div>1.1 Critically evaluate existing collection management protocols against internationally recognised conservation frameworks to identify gaps in practice and compliance.</div> <div>1.2 Implement standardised documentation systems to record provenance, condition, and treatment history in accordance with global museum standards.</div> <div>1.3 Synthesize advanced conservation theories to develop integrated collection management strategies balancing preservation requirements and institutional objectives.</div> <div>1.4 Justify the application of international handling, packing, and transportation standards when relocating rare or fragile specimens.</div> <div>1.5 Evaluate the effectiveness of collection management systems in maintaining long-term integrity, traceability, and scientific value of specimens.</div>        |
| 2. Implement preventive measures against deterioration, pests, and environmental damage. | <div>2.1 Design and implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) systems using advanced monitoring and non-toxic control strategies.</div> <div>2.2 Critically analyse environmental monitoring data (temperature, humidity, light) to establish optimal preservation microclimates.</div> <div>2.3 Apply knowledge of chemical degradation processes to select archival-grade materials that prevent acidic migration and structural damage.</div> <div>2.4 Evaluate air filtration and ventilation systems in mitigating atmospheric pollutants affecting preserved collections.</div> <div>2.5 Develop preventative conservation strategies to reduce biological, chemical, and physical deterioration risks.</div> <div>2.6 Justify selected environmental control methods based on long-term conservation outcomes and sustainability considerations.</div> |

**3. Ensure compliance with international guidelines for specimen storage and display.**

- 3.1 Critically interpret international health, safety, and hazardous material regulations relevant to preserved specimen storage and labelling.
- 3.2 Implement specialised mounting, support, and display systems that meet international conservation and stability standards.
- 3.3 Analyse legal and ethical frameworks governing the display of protected, endangered, or culturally sensitive species.
- 3.4 Determine optimal storage configurations that ensure compliance with safety, accessibility, and conservation requirements.
- 3.5 Evaluate risks associated with non-compliance in specimen handling, storage, and exhibition practices.
- 3.6 Apply international treaty obligations (e.g. wildlife protection agreements) to museum collection management decisions.
- 3.7 Justify display and storage solutions based on compliance, conservation integrity, and public engagement objectives.

**4. Evaluate collection care strategies for long-term preservation and accessibility.**

- 4.1 Critically appraise long-term preservation strategies and their impact on scientific, cultural, and educational value over extended timeframes.
- 4.2 Analyse the balance between preservation restrictions and the need for public and research accessibility to collections.
- 4.3 Formulate evidence-based improvements to collection care strategies based on degradation patterns and environmental performance data.
- 4.4 Evaluate financial, technical, and operational feasibility of upgrading conservation facilities to meet evolving international standards.
- 4.5 Assess the sustainability and scalability of collection care systems in large institutional environments.
- 4.6 Justify strategic decisions in collection management based on long-term conservation outcomes and institutional priorities.

**WQ0001-06- Independent Specialist Project in Taxidermy**

This capstone unit requires learners to demonstrate mastery through a self-directed, complex preservation project. Participants will identify a niche area of interest, conduct preliminary research, and execute a high-level specimen mount or conservation study. The project synthesizes technical skill, innovation, and strategic decision-making, resulting in a professional-grade output that showcases the learner's readiness for specialist consultancy or senior industry roles.

| Learning Outcome:                                                                   | Assessment Criteria:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Design and execute a specialist project showcasing advanced taxidermy expertise. | <div>1.1 Critically evaluate potential project themes and select a complex subject that demonstrates advanced technical and artistic capability in taxidermy.</div> <div>1.2 Design a comprehensive project brief outlining objectives, resource requirements, risk considerations, and an execution timeline for a high-level preservation project.</div> <div>1.3 Demonstrate advanced technical proficiency by executing complex taxidermy processes involving challenging anatomical or structural requirements.</div> <div>1.4 Adapt and refine project methodologies during execution to overcome technical challenges and maintain professional-grade outcomes.</div> <div>1.5 Justify the selection of project approach based on feasibility, technical complexity, and alignment with professional conservation standards.</div>         |
| 2. Integrate research, technical skills, and ethical principles into project work.  | <div>2.1 Synthesize scientific and technical research to inform material selection and methodological approaches throughout the project.</div> <div>2.2 Apply advanced practical taxidermy skills to translate theoretical research into a high-quality preserved specimen.</div> <div>2.3 Critically analyse ethical considerations, ensuring compliance with international conservation and specimen sourcing standards.</div> <div>2.4 Justify technical and ethical decisions using established professional frameworks and evidence-based research.</div> <div>2.5 Evaluate the relationship between scientific research, practical execution, and ethical responsibility in project delivery.</div> <div>2.6 Integrate interdisciplinary knowledge to ensure both scientific validity and conservation integrity of the final output.</div> |

**3. Document processes comprehensively for professional assessment and dissemination.**

- 3.1 Maintain a detailed technical log documenting all stages of the project, including measurements, materials, and procedural developments.
- 3.2 Produce high-quality visual and written documentation that communicates technical complexity to a professional audience.
- 3.3 Critically reflect on the development process, identifying key learning outcomes and technical advancements achieved during the project.
- 3.4 Organise project data into a structured professional portfolio suitable for scientific publication or museum archiving.
- 3.5 Evaluate the clarity, accuracy, and reproducibility of documentation in relation to professional conservation standards.
- 3.6 Justify documentation methods used to ensure transparency and traceability of all technical decisions.
- 3.7 Synthesize project records into a coherent narrative that demonstrates innovation, methodology, and scientific contribution.

**4. Present project outcomes demonstrating innovation, leadership, and global relevance.**

- 4.1 Critically evaluate the final project outcome in terms of its contribution to innovation within the global taxidermy and conservation field.
- 4.2 Present the completed project to a professional panel, demonstrating leadership, communication, and project management competence.
- 4.3 Analyse the relevance of the project within the context of global conservation trends and contemporary museum practice.
- 4.4 Formulate a strategic plan for future application, exhibition, or dissemination of the project to maximise scientific and educational impact.

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