# Museum Management and Curatorial Practice Course

19 – 23 July 2027
Addis Ababa

AGILE LEADERS
Training Center

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**Ref:** 995_224159 **Date:** 19 – 23 July 2027 **Location:** Addis Ababa **Fees:** 4500 Euro

## Overview

Museum Management and Curatorial Practice Course is a one-week advanced course for museum leaders, curators, collections teams, registrars, exhibition managers, and learning professionals, who leave with a Museum Operating and Curatorial Plan. The course connects governance, collections policy and Spectrum workflows, curatorial research and interpretation, exhibitions, museum audience engagement, digital access, budgets, risk, and performance. It replaces separate departmental decisions with mission-led controls and shared evidence. Agile Leaders Training Center develops practical capability in museum management and curatorial practice.

## Who Should Attend

- Leaders responsible for museum mission, governance, strategy, budgets, and performance
- Teams directing collections development, documentation, loans, access, and care
- Personnel researching objects and shaping exhibitions, interpretation, and narratives
- Functions responsible for audiences, learning, partnerships, and digital access
- Professionals coordinating facilities, risk, ethics, and operational assurance

The course assumes participants already manage museum, collections, exhibition, learning, or heritage responsibilities and leaves out entry-level object handling and specialist conservation treatment.

## Departments and Industries

The course supports organizations that care for collections and provide cultural, educational, research, or public access.

- Museums, galleries, and cultural centers
- Libraries, archives, and collection-based institutions
- Universities, research collections, and teaching museums
- Heritage organizations and historic properties
- Exhibition, interpretation, and visitor experience teams
- Foundations, corporate collections, and community museums

## Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Analyze museum governance, mission, policy, resources, and operating risk
- Build collections strategy, acquisition, documentation, loan, and review controls
- Apply curatorial research, interpretation, and exhibition planning methods
- Evaluate audience, learning, digital access, and partnership decisions
- Use financial and performance measures to guide museum priorities
- Prioritize ethical, curatorial, and operational actions in an integrated plan

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## Course Agenda

## Day 1: Museum Governance and Operating Direction

- Museum Mission and Public Trust Map
- Governance Roles and Decision Rights Matrix
- Institutional Strategy and Priority Scorecard
- Budget and Resource Allocation Framework
- Facilities, Security, and Risk Control Register

## Day 2: Collections Policy and Stewardship

- Collections Development Strategy Canvas
- Acquisition, Accessioning, and Due Diligence Gate
- Spectrum 5.1 Location and Movement Control Workflow
- Loans, Rights, and Access Responsibility Matrix
- Deaccessioning and Collections Review Decision Record

## Day 3: Curatorial Research and Exhibition Interpretation

- Curatorial Research Brief and Evidence Log
- Interpretive Framework and Narrative Map
- Exhibition Concept and Experience Plan
- Object Selection and Condition Interface Register
- Label, Accessibility, and Content Review Checklist

## Day 4: Audiences, Access, and Museum Performance

- Museum Audience Segmentation and Needs Map
- Learning and Engagement Activity Plan
- Digital Access and Reproduction Rights Matrix
- Community and Institutional Partnership Portfolio
- Museum Performance and Evaluation Dashboard

## Day 5: Museum Leadership Simulation

- Exercise: Governance and Resource Priority Decision
- Exercise: Acquisition and Collections Policy Review
- Exercise: Exhibition Narrative and Object Selection
- Exercise: Audience, Access, and Performance Tradeoff
- Capstone Exercise: Museum Operating and Curatorial Plan

## Practical Exercises

The course uses suggested activities that connect museum decisions with collection, audience, financial, and operating evidence.

- Suggested activity: test an acquisition proposal against mission, provenance, resources, and access
- Suggested activity: build an exhibition narrative from curatorial evidence and audience needs
- Suggested activity: balance collections care, digital access, budgets, and partnership priorities
- Suggested activity: assemble a Museum Operating and Curatorial Plan

## FAQs

### Who suits museum management and curatorial practice training?

Museum management and curatorial practice training suits experienced personnel responsible for governance, collections, documentation, exhibitions, interpretation, learning, audiences, budgets, risk, or operations. It assumes practical responsibility within a museum or collection-based organization.

### How does museum management and curatorial practice differ from conservation training?

Museum management and curatorial practice directs institutional decisions, collections policy, research, exhibitions, audiences, resources, access, and performance. Conservation training concentrates more deeply on assessing materials, preventing deterioration, and planning or carrying out treatment.

### What belongs in a museum collections management policy?

A museum collections management policy should define collection scope, acquisition, accessioning, documentation, location control, care, access, loans, rights, review, deaccessioning, accountable roles, approval routes, records, and ethical decision requirements.

### How should curatorial research shape museum exhibitions?

Curatorial research should establish evidence, significance, context, source reliability, knowledge gaps, interpretive choices, object relevance, audience questions, and review responsibilities. These elements guide the narrative, selection, labels, learning activities, digital content, and evaluation approach.

## Which measures support museum operating performance?

Museum operating performance measures should connect mission delivery, collection documentation, care actions, access, exhibition results, audience reach, learning evidence, financial control, partnerships, facilities, risk, digital use, and action closure to management decisions.

## Conclusion

Participants leave with a Museum Operating and Curatorial Plan connecting governance, collections, research, exhibitions, audiences, learning, digital access, resources, risk, and performance. The plan replaces separate departmental priorities with mission-led decision controls. It provides a practical basis for collections stewardship, interpretive choices, resource allocation, and institutional improvement.