

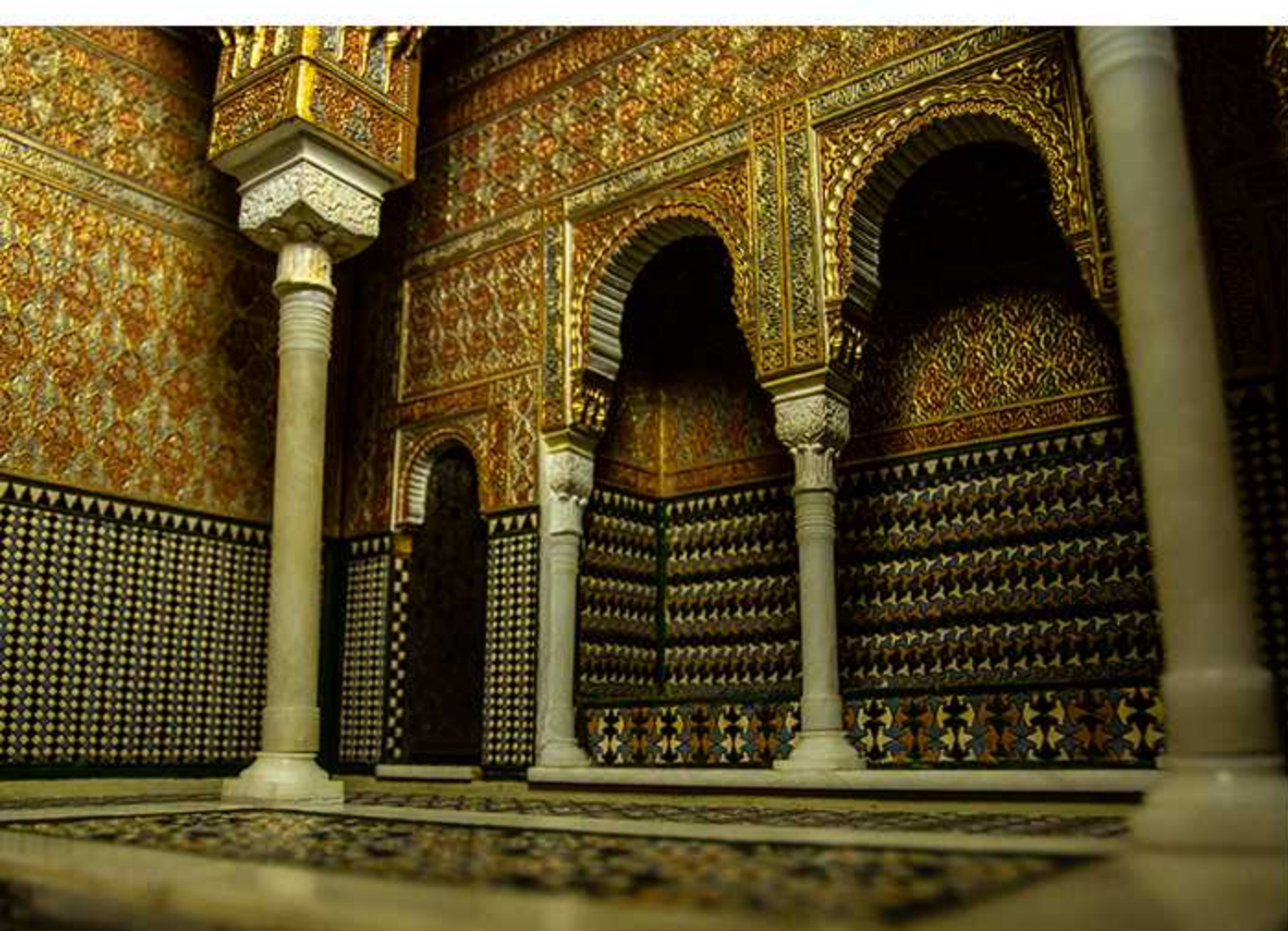


*the Art
of yeseria
nazari*

Working with moulds and his restoring



Introduction

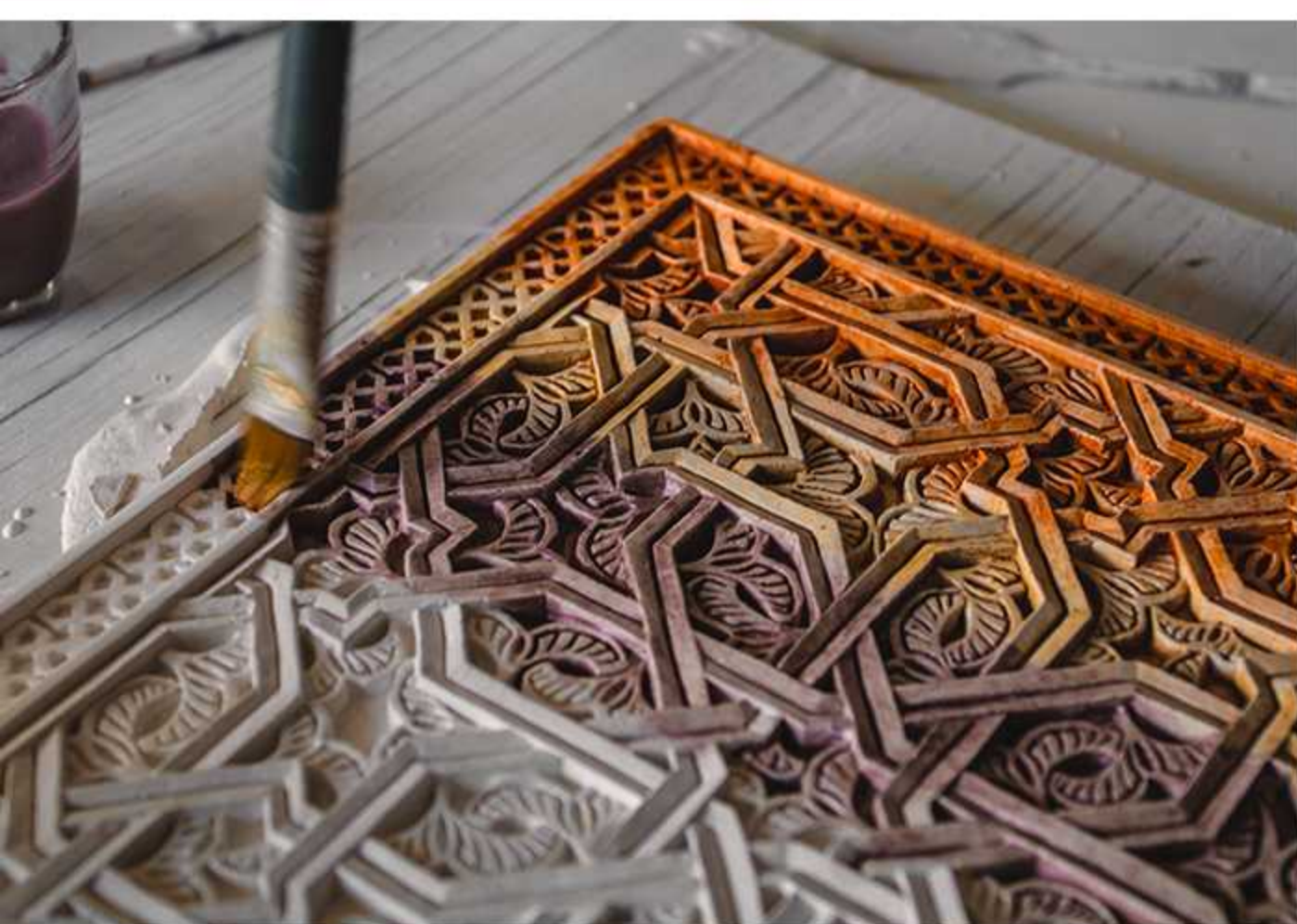


The plasterwork describes the distinctive nature or features of Al-Andalus in the middle Ages, transforming the walls into decorative patterned reliefs that alter a contained environment into an enriched luxurious palace.

To this day, rare examples have been spotted in the Near East and the northern African counties, such as Morocco, Algeria, Egypt and especially in the Iberian Peninsula, both in the Islamic and Christian areas as well as in Toledo, Seville, Murcia and Zaragoza.

However no city like Granada offers such a wide variety set of plasterwork, covering different styles genre, colours, shape, and structural integrity over a period of time, from the 12th to the 15th century. Much of this repertoire remains in the monumental site of the ALHAMBRA (www.alhambra-patronato.es)

This course tries to form a practical way about the work with the plaster, being 80% of practical classes and 20% theoretical.



We will learn the different technique of the plasterwork whilst studying the artisanal forms, both direct carving work and moulded with the aid of plaster, we will learn its history, its iconography and the different degrees and deterioration agents that act on them, as well as the different methods of protection plasterworks.

To begin we will engage in a theoretical introduction (20%), talks will be held by leading specialists who will present the subject in general throughout Spain. He or she will then focus on the Nasrid examples, as counterpoint and reference to the Alhambra. After each of the conferences, practical classes (80%) will be held in our specialized workshop.

This course is based on training the different techniques and use of plaster to craftsmen of different trades and professionals in the restoration industry who have very little knowledge about the handling of plaster, and the possibilities of working with moulds both in the restoration aspects of our cultural heritage, as for the execution of new works. Like his training in academies and art schools is very limited.



The course is organized by the artisans of the Master Craftsmen in Construction organisation of Spain. The classes will be taught by leading professionals in the restoration industry recognized by members of the Network of Experts in Heritage, granted by the Ministry of Science and Innovation (CEB09-0032), and followed by artisanal specialists, skilled with plasterwork.



Short description of contents



This course aims to expand knowledgeable experience when transforming and working with gypsum stone as well as the different phases and states that go from cooking to kneading and putting into operation.

We will explore the artisan methods or “workshop trick” with the use of tools and materials handed-down by gypsum artisans in ancient times.

We will learn about the different mortars to knead plaster, the combination and the use of vegetable fibres and synthetics.

We will engage in the different techniques of the work of direct carving and symtaneously working with the different moulding systems (hard moulds, animal tail moulds, silicone, release agents, etc.).

They will be raised and analyzed the characteristics of plasterworks, they will be addressed and developed an empirical aspect related to the methodology in order to carry out the previous studies and trials of materials, techniques, execution and restoration work accordingly.

We will study the component of plaster, its behaviour and its use as a decorative and structural element. We will assess the factors of specific conservation, intervention criteria and restoration treatments applied. In regards to practical cases, the plasterwork of the Alhambra will be studied, among some parallel cases of plaster sets of the city of Granada, such as the facade of the Corral de Carbón, plasterwork Alcazar del Genil, Palace of the Dar al-Horra, and Royal Quarter of Santo Domingo and much more.

All tickets visit to all those monuments are included in this course.



General and specific competence of the module

- Ideal candidate must Acquire the learning skills to continue studying in depth and work in a fundamentally self-directed or autonomous way.
- Applicants must Understand and value the uniqueness of the works that makes up the Heritage of Islamic tradition.
- Applicants must be familiar with the structure and material composition and be able to appreciate its fragility.
- Applicants are required to make adequate diagnosis about the pathologies presented by the cultural objective and intervention.
- Applicant must know the proper foundations in order to correctly apply conservation/restoration treatments and be able to carry them out.
- Applicants must be able to integrate knowledge and formulate judgments based on their initiative, social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgments.
- Applicants must possess the knowledge and understanding that provides a basis or opportunity to be original in the development and / or application of ideas, often in a research context.
- Applicants must know how to apply the acquired knowledge and also the ability to solve problems in new or unfamiliar environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to your area of study.
- Applicants are required to integrate knowledge and face the complexity to make judgments based on limited information. This includes reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgments.



Objectives

The student will know / understand:

The handling of the plaster, its possibilities and its behavior.

Know the different gypsum mortars, the combination of vegetal and synthetic fibers, and the different possibilities of working with plaster and the creation of molds in different materials. The characteristics of the Islamic tradition plasterworks and their production systems and techniques execution and installation on vertical walls.

He/She will know its specific alterations and, from the study of concrete cases, the main ones protection and restoration treatments.



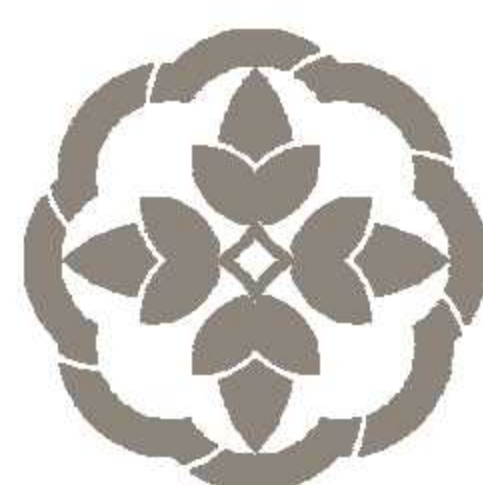
The student will be able to:

Implement the related knowledge acquired with the restoration of plasterwork in general, and specifically those of Islamic tradition.



Contents

- The plaster material: Nature, composition and characterization of the material.
- Gypsum as a mineral: crystalline structure, chemical composition, training conditions and deposition.
- Gypsum as a construction material: chemical process involved in cooking and setting. Its application and implementation are combined.
- Problems of alteration of the plaster.
- Historical background. The use of plaster designed to mimic the Historical Aspects. The Alhambra: History and Interventions.
- Nazarees: The aesthetics of the Alhambra, The Systematic work in the Nazarí period. The work of motives through moulds:
- The colour in the Yeserías Nazaíes.
- The Polychrome techniques and the Gold application Techniques.
- The plaster and its restoration. The standards of Conservational and Restoration work.
- Evaluation of the piece and its alterations.
- Cleaning methods
- Application of new restoration mortars. (Alhambra mortar)
- Consolidating behaviour.
- Treatment of polychromies.
- Treatment of metal and other elements (ropes rods ...)
- The use of moulds in the restoration processes.
- Model Types, Current materials, tools, techniques and procedures.
- Reproduction with the aid of various materials and different techniques.



Workshop practices:

● Practice 1.
Know the plaster and the different existing varieties and their qualities

● Practice 2.
Kneading the plaster and preparing mortars.

● Practice 3.
Use of vegetable fibers

● Practice 4.
Repairing a mould from a tap.

● Practice 5.
Volumetric and integration. Mortar Alhambra.

● Practice 6.
Obtaining moulds from the clay grip technique.

● Practice 7.
Creation of silicone moulds and emptying them.

● Practice 8.
Creation of rigid moulds and emptying. (Demoulders)

CULTURAL AND PROFESSIONAL VISITS

-Guided tours to plaster quarries and Visits to the different spaces of the Monumental complex of the Alhambra.
We will give a detailed explanation and original reasons for plasterwork as well as other monuments such as the facade of the Corral de Carbón, plasterwork of Alcazar Genil, Palace of the Madraza, and Royal Room of Santo Domingo and much more.

