What is a MOOC?
A massive open online course (MOOC) is an online course aimed at large-scale interactive participation and open access via the web. In addition to traditional course materials such as videos, readings, and problem sets, MOOCs provide interactive user forums that help build a community for the students, professors, and teaching assistants (TAs). MOOCs are a recent development in distance education. The Heritage under Threat MOOC is hosted on the Coursera platform.

For whom?
This course does not require prior knowledge. It is aimed at both practitioners in the field and people who are concerned about situations of failed governance or neglect in regards to heritage. This course is free, and will remain free for participants. You can, however, purchase a certificate if you want.

Find the Heritage under Threat MOOC on https://www.coursera.org/learn/heritage-protection

What our students say
“One of the finest courses dealing with heritage and its conservation”
– Anonymous

“This course has taught me a lot and offered amazing insightful views about heritage worldwide. It broadened my previous (limited) knowledge about cultural and archaeological heritage. I would highly recommend this course to those interested in the topics of heritage!”
– Anonymous

“Nice course with good information!”
– Anonymous

Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)

Heritage under Threat

Centre for Global Heritage and Development

Partners
This course is sponsored by the LDE Centre for Global Heritage and Development and the Honours Academy of Leiden University, and the Netherlands Commission for UNESCO which gave its support to one of the sections of the MOOC.
Heritage threats
The various threats to heritage, both anthropogenic and natural, are covered in the fourth module of this MOOC. We will talk about heritage in conflict situations and the role of cultural heritage in conflicts about human rights, with a case study on the destruction of cultural heritage in Timbuktu, Mali (internationally also known as the ‘Al Mahdi’ case).

Heritage protection
In this module, we will discuss how we can protect cultural heritage and which measures we have at our disposal to do so. Much of these are based on international laws, treaties, and agreements. We will explain to you what these are and how they (inter)connect with concepts such as human rights and international law.

Inclusive heritage
Lastly, we will discuss how heritage can be utilised to create an inclusive, sensitive, and thoughtful society. We will also discuss some of the innovations in the world of video games and virtual reality, which offer new tools to help create an open and inclusive heritage discourse.