

**Curriculum Details**  
**Doctor of Philosophy Program in**  
**Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment**  
**(Revised Curriculum 2022)**

**Name of Institution:** Silpakorn University  
**Campus/Faculty/Department:** Wang Tha Phra/Faculty of Architecture/Department of Architecture

**Number and Title of the Program**

**Number of the Program:** 25560081101946  
**Title of the Program:** Doctor of Philosophy Program in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment

**Name of Degree and Field of Study**

**Full name:** Doctor of Philosophy (Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment)  
**Abbreviation of name:** Ph.D. (Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment)

**Major**

None

**Total Number of Credits**

Plan 1.1 (for holders of a Master degree) equivalent of 48 credits  
Plan 1.2 (for holders of a Bachelor degree) equivalent of 72 credits  
Plan 2.1 (for holders of a Master degree) not less than 54 credits  
Plan 2.2 (for holders of a Bachelor degree) not less than 72 credits

**Character of the Program**

- 1. Type of program:** Doctoral degree

Plan 1.1	2.5 years
Plan 1.2	4 years
Plan 2.1	3 years
Plan 2.2	3.5 years
- 2. Language medium:** Thai and/or English
- 3. Student intake:** Thai and foreign students who are able to communicate in Thai and/or English
- 4. Collaboration with other institutes:** This program is run exclusively by the organizing institute.
- 5. Degree conferred:** Single degree

## Career Opportunities after Graduation

1. Designer of architecture and built environment
2. Lecturer, professor at the level of tertiary education
3. Researcher in public / private organization or institute of higher learning
4. Producer of various information media
5. Specialist in conservation, community development and cultural heritage
6. Entrepreneur in the fields of vernacular architecture, communities and the built environment
7. Other related modern innovative professions such as blogger/vlogger, cultural influencer

## Objectives of the Program

1. To produce graduates who possess knowledge, ability, and research ethics in gathering information on vernacular architecture and built environment for conservation and accumulation of further knowledge on cultural resources that may be applicable to development in the context of contemporary society
2. To produce graduates who possess 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and life-long learning ambitions especially with regards to vernacular architecture and built environment
3. To produce graduates who possess knowledge of vernacular architecture and built environment that forms the basis of creative thinking for furthering academic development as well as development of the architectural and design professions
4. To produce graduates who possess knowledge of human settlements, vernacular architecture and built environment with profound understanding and respect for cultural diversities within the Asian region so as to help raise the people's quality of life in accordance with sustainable development objectives.

## Eligibility to Apply

1. There are 4 types of study plans offered. Applicants must possess the qualifications prescribed for each plan accordingly as follows:

### Plan 1.1 Thesis only (equivalent of 48 credits)

- 1) A Master of Arts in Vernacular Architecture or in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment from Silpakorn University or
- 2) A Master degree or equivalent in any field with at least 4 years working experience plus research undertaking related to local wisdom, vernacular architecture, built environment, or other related disciplines that is widely recognized, subject to consideration at the discretion of the Program Operating Committee

### Plan 1.2 Thesis only (equivalent of 72 credits)

A Bachelor degree or equivalent in any field with grade point average of not less than 3.5 and at least 6 years working experience plus research undertaking related to local wisdom, vernacular architecture, built environment, or other related disciplines that is widely recognized, subject to consideration at the discretion of the Program Operating Committee

### Plan 2.1 Coursework (18 credits) plus Thesis (equivalent of 36 credits) totaling 54 credits

A Master degree or equivalent in any field with a thesis, subject to consideration at the discretion of the Program Operating Committee

**Plan 2.2 Coursework (24 credits) plus Thesis (equivalent of 48 credits) totaling 72 credits**

1) A Bachelor degree with average grade point average of not less than 3.5, subject to consideration at the discretion of the Program Operating Committee ***or***

2) A Bachelor degree currently studying for a Master's in Vernacular Architecture or in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment and have completed at least 24 credit with average grade point average of 4.0 may request for transfer to this program, subject to consideration at the discretion of the Program Operating Committee

2. Passed English proficiency test at the level specified by the Committee of Higher Education or according to that required by Silpakorn University

3. Possess the qualities stipulated under Article 7 of Silpakorn University Graduate Studies Regulations, 2023 and/or subsequent changes thereof.

### Number of Credits

Plan 1.1	equivalent of	48 credits
Plan 1.2	equivalent of	72 credits
Plan 2.1	not less than	54 credits
Plan 2.2	not less than	72 credits

### Structure of the Curriculum

#### Plan 1.1

Compulsory courses	non-credit	12	credits
Thesis	equivalent to	48	credits
Total number of credits throughout the program		48	credits

#### Plan 1.2

Compulsory courses	non-credit	12	credits
Thesis	equivalent to	72	credits
Total number of credits throughout the program		72	credits

#### Plan 2.1

Compulsory courses	non-credit	9	credits
Compulsory courses	a number of	9	credits
Elective courses	not less than	9	credits
Thesis	equivalent to	36	credits
Minimum total number of credits throughout the program		54	credits

#### Plan 2.2

Compulsory courses	non-credit	9	credits
Compulsory courses	a number of	9	credits
Elective courses	not less than	15	credits
Thesis	equivalent to	48	credits
Minimum total number of credits throughout the program		72	credits

## Courses

### Foundation courses (non-credit)

Students with no background in architecture may, at the discretion of the Program Operating Committee, be required to enroll in an architectural drafting course or other supplementary foundation courses.

#### Plan 1.1

##### 1) Compulsory Courses (non-credit) 12 credits

261 511 Critical Thinking in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment Research	3*(2-2-5)
261 610 Fundamentals for Advanced Research in Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 611 Seminar in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 612 Seminar in Thesis Writing	3 (2-2-5)

##### 2) Thesis (equivalent to 48 credits)

261 620 Thesis	equivalent to 48 credits
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#### Plan 1.2

##### 1) Compulsory Courses (non-credit) 12 credits

261 511 Critical Thinking in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment Research	3*(2-2-5)
261 610 Fundamentals for Advanced Research in Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 611 Seminar in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 612 Seminar in Thesis Writing	3 (2-2-5)

##### 2) Thesis (equivalent to 72 credits)

261 621 Thesis	equivalent to 72 credits
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#### Plan 2.1

##### 1) Compulsory Courses (non-credit) 9 credits

261 610 Fundamentals for Advanced Research in Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 611 Seminar in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 612 Seminar in Thesis Writing	3 (2-2-5)

##### 2) Compulsory Courses (9 credits)

261 510 Field Study in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3(1-4-4)
261 511 Critical Thinking in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment Research	3(2-2-5)
261 512 Wisdom and Technology in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3(3-0-6)

##### 3) Elective Courses (not less than 9 credits)

###### **Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment Heritage** group of courses

261 530 Cultural Ecology, Cultural Landscape and Historic Urban Landscape	3(3-0-6)
261 531 Settlements and Vernacular Built Environment of Ethnic People	3(2-2-5)
261 532 Sacred and Religious of Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3(2-2-5)

###### **Management of Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment** group of courses

261 533 Social, Cultural and Built Environment Based Economy	3(3-0-6)
261 534 Conservation and Development of Built Environment and Community	3(2-2-5)
261 535 Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment in Urban Context	3(2-2-5)
261 536 Adaptation of Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment for Contemporary Context	3(2-2-5)

Note: \* denotes non-credit courses that are evaluated in terms of S or U

**Design Related** group of courses

261 537 Material and Tectonic Construction in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment 3(2-2-5)

261 538 Contemporary Architecture Design in Vernacular Context 3(2-2-5)

261 539 Vernacular Architecture and Design for Comfort 3(3-0-6)

**Research Related** group of courses

261 540 Geographic Information System for Built Environment Research 3(2-2-5)

261 541 International Field Study and Workshop in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment 3(2-2-5)

Apart from the above electives, students may also choose to enroll in any other courses offered by other programs at the Graduate Level, subject to the approval of respective professors responsible for each course, and/or student's academic/Thesis advisor.

**4) Thesis (equivalent to 36 credits)**

261 622 Thesis equivalent to 36 credits

**Plan 2.2**

**1) Compulsory Courses (non-credit) 9 credits**

261 610 Fundamentals for Advanced Research in Architecture and Built Environment 3\*(2-2-5)

261 611 Seminar in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment 3\*(2-2-5)

261 612 Seminar in Thesis Writing 3 (2-2-5)

**2) Compulsory Courses (9 credits)**

261 510 Field Study in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment 3 (1-4-4)

261 511 Critical Thinking in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment Research 3 (2-2-5)

261 512 Wisdom and Technology in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment 3 (3-0-6)

**3) Elective Courses (not less than 15 credits)**

**Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment Heritage** group of courses

261 530 Cultural Ecology, Cultural Landscape and Historic Urban Landscape 3 (3-0-6)

261 531 Settlements and Vernacular Built Environment of Ethnic People 3 (2-2-5)

261 532 Sacred and Religious of Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment 3 (2-2-5)

**Management of Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment** group of courses

261 533 Social, Cultural and Built Environment Based Economy 3 (3-0-6)

261 534 Conservation and Development of Built Environment and Community 3 (2-2-5)

261 535 Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment in Urban Context 3 (2-2-5)

261 536 Adaptation of Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment for Contemporary Context 3 (2-2-5)

**Design Related** group of courses

261 537 Material and Tectonic Construction in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment 3 (2-2-5)

261 538 Contemporary Architecture Design in Vernacular Context 3 (2-2-5)

261 539 Vernacular Architecture and Design for Comfort 3 (3-0-6)

*Note: \* denotes non-credit courses that are evaluated in terms of S or U*

**Research Related** group of courses

261 540 Geographic Information System for Built Environment Research 3 (2-2-5)

261 541 International Field Study and Workshop in Vernacular Architecture  
and Built Environment 3 (2-2-5)

Apart from the above electives, students may also choose to enroll in any other courses offered by other programs at the Graduate Level, subject to the approval of respective professors responsible for each course, and/or student's academic/Thesis advisor.

**4) Thesis (equivalent to 48 credits)**

261 623 Thesis equivalent to 48 credits

## Study Plans

### Plan 1.1 (2.5 years)

#### Year 1 Semester 1

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 511	Critical Thinking in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment Research	3*(2-2-5)
261 620	Thesis (equivalent to)	6
<b>Total</b>		6

#### Year 1 Semester 2

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 610	Fundamentals for Advanced Research in Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 620	Thesis (equivalent to)	6
<b>Total</b>		6

#### Year 2 Semester 1

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 611	Seminar in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 620	Thesis (equivalent to)	12
<b>Total</b>		12

#### Year 2 Semester 2

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 612	Seminar in Thesis Writing	3*(2-2-5)
261 620	Thesis (equivalent to)	12
<b>Total</b>		12

#### Year 3 Semester 1

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 620	Thesis (equivalent to)	12
<b>Total</b>		12

Note: \* denotes non-credit courses that are evaluated in terms of S or U

**Plan 1.2 (4 years)**

**Year 1 Semester 1**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 511	Critical Thinking in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment Research	3*(2-2-5)
261 621	Thesis (equivalent to)	3
<b>Total</b>		3

**Year 1 Semester 2**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 610	Fundamentals for Advanced Research in Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 621	Thesis (equivalent to)	6
<b>Total</b>		6

**Year 2 Semester 1**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 611	Seminar in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 621	Thesis (equivalent to)	6
<b>Total</b>		6

**Year 2 Semester 2**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 612	Seminar in Thesis Writing	3*(2-2-5)
261 621	Thesis (equivalent to)	9
<b>Total</b>		9

**Year 3 Semester 1**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 621	Thesis (equivalent to)	12
<b>Total</b>		12

**Year 3 Semester 2**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 621	Thesis (equivalent to)	12
<b>Total</b>		12

*Note: \* denotes non-credit courses that are evaluated in terms of S or U*



Plan 1.2 (continued)

Year 4 Semester 1

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 621	Thesis (equivalent to)	12
<b>Total</b>		12

Year 4 Semester 2

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 621	Thesis (equivalent to)	12
<b>Total</b>		12

**Plan 2.1 (3 years)**

**Year 1 Semester 1**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 510	Field Study in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3(1-4-4)
261 511	Critical Thinking in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment Research	3(2-2-5)
261 512	Wisdom and Technology in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3(3-0-6)
	Electives	3
<b>Total</b>		12

**Year 1 Semester 2**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 610	Fundamentals for Advanced Research in Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
	Electives	6
<b>Total</b>		6

**Year 2 Semester 1**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 611	Seminar in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 622	Thesis (equivalent to)	9
<b>Total</b>		9

**Year 2 Semester 2**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 612	Seminar in Thesis Writing	3*(2-2-5)
261 622	Thesis (equivalent to)	9
<b>Total</b>		9

**Year 3 Semester 1**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 622	Thesis (equivalent to)	9
<b>Total</b>		9

**Year 3 Semester 2**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 622	Thesis (equivalent to)	9
<b>Total</b>		9

*Note: \* denotes non-credit courses that are evaluated in terms of S or U*

Plan 2.2 (3.5 years)

Year 1 Semester 1

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 510	Field Study in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3(1-4-4)
261 511	Critical Thinking in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment Research	3(2-2-5)
261 512	Wisdom and Technology in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3(3-0-6)
	Electives	3
<b>Total</b>		12

Year 1 Semester 2

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
	Electives	9
<b>Total</b>		9

Year 2 Semester 1

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 623	Thesis (equivalent to)	6
	Electives	3
<b>Total</b>		9

Year 2 Semester 2

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 610	Fundamentals for Advanced Research in Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 623	Thesis (equivalent to)	6
<b>Total</b>		6

Year 3 Semester 1

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 611	Seminar in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment	3*(2-2-5)
261 623	Thesis (equivalent to)	12
<b>Total</b>		12

Note: \* denotes non-credit courses that are evaluated in terms of S or U

Plan 2.2 (continued)

**Year 3 Semester 2**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 612	Seminar in Thesis Writing	3*(2-2-5)
261 623	Thesis (equivalent to)	12
<b>Total</b>		12

**Year 4 Semester 1**

Course No.	Course Title	Credits (L-P-E)
261 623	Thesis (equivalent to)	12
<b>Total</b>		12

Note: \* denotes non-credit courses that are evaluated in terms of S or U

## Course Descriptions

- 261 510 Field Study in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment 3(1-4-4)**  
Practical fieldwork in areas with diverse cultures so as to study site planning and site ecology; advanced techniques in data collecting and using survey instruments; drafting, advanced presentation; three-dimensional computer graphics techniques and Building Information Modelling (BIM); data processing and analysis; writing detailed and in-depth report illustrating interrelationship between vernacular architecture, built environment and cultural ecology.  
Field trips required.
- 261 511 Critical Thinking in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment Research 3(2-2-5)**  
*Note: Plan 1.1 and Plan 1.2 students will be evaluated in terms of S or U*  
*Plan 2.1 and Plan 2.2 students will be evaluated in terms of grades*  
Understanding problems and their related factors with discerning, observant and questioning mind; critical thinking process; systematic problem-solving methodologies; creative mindset and lateral thinking; techniques and tools for creating ideas and solutions; facts and opinions; logic and fallacy; critical listening and rational argument related to vernacular architecture and built environment research.  
Field trips required.
- 261 512 Wisdom and Technology in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment 3(3-0-6)**  
Local technical wisdom and knowledge acquired through problem solving, coding and application; materials, structure and construction techniques; transformations in vernacular architecture and built environment based on the concept of sustainable living; management issues concerning vernacular architecture and environment in rural and urban contexts.  
Field trips required.
- 261 530 Cultural Ecology, Cultural Landscape and Historic Urban Landscape 3(3-0-6)**  
Relationship between ecology, settlements, and way of life; cultural factors associated with the natural environment and development of architectural forms; concept of cultural landscape and historic urban landscape; identifying values, categorization, evaluation and management approaches for sustainability.  
Field trips required.
- 261 531 Settlements and Vernacular Built Environment of Ethnic People 3(2-2-5)**  
Mythology, beliefs and notion-influenced formation of settlements, built environment and vernacular architecture of marginal communities; multicultural communities; complexity and contradiction; continued existence; replication and change related to culture, socio-economic and political contexts of vernacular architecture and changes in both historical and contemporary societies that bring about local styles, changes, and developments in architecture.  
Field trips required.

- 261 532 Sacred and Religious Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment 3(2-2-5)**  
 Religions, beliefs, and cultures that influence layout planning and vernacular religious architectures related to myth and religious concepts, philosophy, religious symbols, concept and perception in cosmology, supernatural and environmental factors reflecting worldviews of their builders and inhabitants; functions and spatial organization; values and roles of vernacular architecture on social systems, beliefs and religious systems and local community.  
 Field trips required.
- 261 533 Social, Cultural and Built Environment Based Economy 3(3-0-6)**  
 Socio-economic aspects of various local communities in relation to social history; issues concerning productivity, social groups, culture, way of life, and environment that reflect dynamism and adaptation of communities within the context of contemporary society.  
 Field trips required.
- 261 534 Conservation and Development of Built Environment and Community 3(2-2-5)**  
 Theories and principles concerning management of vernacular architectural heritage and built environment; international conservation charters, related laws and regulations; various conservation methods and techniques; concept of participatory community development based on knowledge and understanding of vernacular architecture; field exercises in data collection, implementation workshop, and public presentations.  
 Field trips required.
- 261 535 Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment in Urban Context 3(2-2-5)**  
 Definitions of vernacular architecture in constantly changing context of contemporary urban society; ways of thinking, observing and decoding; technical know-how and application of experience accumulated through problem-solving in a rural context to an urban situation; construction skill and use of materials; interrelationship of dwellings at individual, household, community and city levels; formation of settlements and livelihood of inhabitants with regards to physical, social, economic and political issues.  
 Field trips required.
- 261 536 Adaptation of Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment for Contemporary Context 3(2-2-5)**  
 Principles, framework, laws and policies on conservation and development of old towns, heritage districts and communities in Thailand, international contexts and trends; survey and investigation of vernacular buildings and the built environment; value analysis; creating business model canvas and recommendations based on value; project's value given to the society; social returns on investment.

- 261 537 Material and Tectonic Construction in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment** **3(2-2-5)**
- Relationship between design and materials, tectonic construction and details in vernacular architecture and built environment; traditional and modern knowledge and wisdom related to vernacular and built environment in both rural communities and urban context; process of shaping design through aesthetic processing of material and construction.
- Field trips required.
- 261 538 Contemporary Architecture Design in Vernacular Context** **3(2-2-5)**
- Theory and principle; decoding and interpretation; idea development from local wisdom and cultural context for creative design of built environment and contemporary architecture in relation to its contexts.
- Field trips required.
- 261 539 Vernacular Architecture and Design for Comfort** **3(3-0-6)**
- Local wisdom of vernacular architecture and built environment in adapting itself with its environment and creating thermal comfort based on passive design strategies.
- Field trips required.
- 261 540 Geographic Information System for Built Environment Research** **3(2-2-5)**
- Definitions and principles of Geographic Information System; framework for data analysis; characteristics of geographic data; database structure, data input, collecting and filing spatial data and attribute data; analyzing geographic information; mapping and using computer graphic programs to produce maps; use of remote sensing for making interpretations and conducting research on built environment.
- Field trips required.
- 261 541 International Field Study and Workshop in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment** **3(2-2-5)**
- Conducting international practical fieldworks and workshops in various countries; creating academic and research collaboration networks; improving international mindset and skills in research and design; understanding and respecting diversity in ways of living, cultures, ethnicity and indigenous people, beliefs and religions; developing skills in presentation and collaboration for the fieldwork and workshops.
- Field trips required.

- 261 610**     **Fundamentals for Advanced Research in Architecture and Built Environment**     **3(2-2-5)**  
*Non-credit course with evaluation in terms of S or U*  
 Preparing research proposal; use of information technology for gathering, processing and analyzing data; writing reports and articles; techniques for presentation and discussion of findings and results; preparing papers and articles for publication in international journals.
- 261 611**     **Seminar in Vernacular Architecture and Built Environment**     **3(2-2-5)**  
*Non-credit course with evaluation in terms of S or U*  
 Inquiries through use of information technology; presentation and discussion of topics studied concerning new or advanced knowledge regarding vernacular architecture; developing ability in carrying out literature reviews that may lead to formulating hypothesis and establishing direction for research work.
- 261 612**     **Seminar in Thesis Writing**     **3(2-2-5)**  
*Non-credit course with evaluation in terms of S or U*  
 Building confidence and skills in undertaking Thesis work; establishing objectives and developing research questions as well as devising methods for addressing such questions; literature review, analyses, discussions and conclusions; alternative models for Thesis; managing data; writing articles, abstracts and references
- 261 620**     **Thesis**     **equivalent to 48 credits**  
 Individual research on an advanced and specific topic relating to vernacular architecture and built environment carried out systematically to produce new body of knowledge under supervision of a thesis supervisor.
- 261 621**     **Thesis**     **equivalent to 72 credits**  
 Individual research on an advanced and specific topic relating to vernacular architecture and built environment carried out systematically to produce new body of knowledge under supervision of a thesis supervisor.
- 261 622**     **Thesis**     **equivalent to 36 credits**  
 Individual research on an advanced and specific topic relating to vernacular architecture and built environment carried out systematically to produce new body of knowledge under supervision of a thesis supervisor.
- 261 623**     **Thesis**     **equivalent to 48 credits**  
 Individual research on an advanced and specific topic relating to vernacular architecture and built environment carried out systematically to produce new body of knowledge under supervision of a thesis supervisor.