

Teaching at the Yale University Art Gallery

THE YALE UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY offers an exceptional environment for teaching, with a collection comprising nearly 300,000 objects from around the globe that range in date from antiquity to the present. We welcome you to incorporate sessions at the Gallery into your undergraduate- and graduate-level courses.

We host courses from a wide variety of disciplines, departments, and programs, whether from Yale or other colleges and universities. Class visits to the Gallery are conducive to innovative pedagogical approaches that engage students' multiple intelligences and can train them to be analytical observers, agile thinkers, and empathetic individuals.

ABOUT THE COLLECTION

The Gallery's collection encompasses 12 curatorial areas: African Art, American Decorative Arts, American Paintings and Sculpture, Ancient Art, Art of the Ancient Americas, Asian Art, European Art, Indo-Pacific Art, Modern and Contemporary Art, Numismatics, Photography, and Prints and Drawings. Brief overviews of each can be found on our website, at artgallery.yale.edu/research-and-learning/curatorial-areas.

Our full collection is searchable online, at artgallery.yale.edu/collection.

Spanning one and a half city blocks and three historic buildings in downtown New Haven, the museum displays more than 4,000 works in our permanent-collection galleries. These spaces are dynamic, shifting regularly to accommodate new acquisitions and loans. Light-sensitive items such as textiles and works on paper are changed every four to six months. Each semester, for example, you can expect to find new installations from the Department of Asian Art (on the second floor) and the Departments of Prints and Drawings and of Photography (on the fourth floor). In addition, the Gallery hosts special exhibitions each semester on a range of topics, and these projects are often accompanied by related scholarly publications.

THOUGHTFULLY DESIGNED GALLERY VISITS CAN:

Engage students in the close study of material and visual culture

Draw out connections to course content, empowering students to think in new and creative ways about subjects introduced in the classroom

Cultivate critical skills and thinking dispositions

Build community among students and foster a sense of belonging and inclusion

Introduce students to the Gallery as an academic and personal resource

To learn more about teaching at the Gallery, contact the Academic Affairs team at yuag.acadaff@yale.edu.

PLAN YOUR COURSE VISIT

All course visits must be registered in advance.

Find the registration form at artgallery.yale.edu/groups.

Most university class visits take place in either our permanent-collection galleries or our special exhibitions. Opportunities abound for putting works from different geographies, media, time periods, and cultural contexts in dialogue to expand students' frames of reference and foster cross-cultural understanding.

Visits can be **guided** by Gallery staff or **self-guided** by course instructors. Curators and educators are available to advise you on selecting objects and designing course visits. We can provide specialized pedagogical training and consult on crafting assignments that engage with objects.

Please consider the following logistics when planning your course visit:

- We request at least **three weeks' notice** for visits to the galleries.
- Reservations are made in the order they are received.
- When we schedule a visit, we reserve the relevant galleries for your class to avoid having multiple groups learning in the same space. *Please keep in mind that many groups are scheduled in the galleries each day. We ask you to **book specific galleries** for your classes so that we can reduce disruptions to your plans and effectively coordinate simultaneous group visits.*
- We **limit group size** in the galleries to 15 students to ensure the safety of the objects.
- Large classes must be divided into smaller groups.
- With advance planning, we can accommodate visits outside of regular Gallery hours (on Mondays and before 10:00 am Tuesday to Friday). These visits require a staff escort, even if the class is self-guided by the instructor.

OBJECT-STUDY SPACES

University classes may view objects from storage in our **object-study classrooms**, which are available by reservation. Requests for objects from storage are reviewed by collection curators and require at least one month's advance notice. Each classroom is equipped with a computer, wireless Internet access, a projector, and a screen. As in the galleries, groups in each object-study classroom are capped at 15 students.

We also have spaces in the museum dedicated to the study of works from specific collection areas. Typically available by appointment Tuesday to Friday from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm, they are:

- **The Bela Lyon Pratt Study Room for Numismatics**, which can be reserved to view coins, medals, and paper currency
- **The James E. Duffy Study Room**, which can be reserved to view works on paper from the Departments of Prints and Drawings and of Photography

We also have two **hybrid storage and study spaces** in the Collection Studies Center at Yale West Campus, in West Haven. Both are open by appointment Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Shuttle transportation from 201 York Street can be arranged for classes visiting these spaces. They are:

- **The Leslie P. and George H. Hume American Furniture Study Center**, which is a working library of over 1,300 examples of furniture, clocks, and wooden objects that were made in America or for the American market from the 17th century to the present
- **The Margaret and Angus Wurtele Study Center**, which houses visible storage of three-dimensional objects, classrooms, and flexible spaces with seminar tables that allow for the close study of collection material

We look forward to seeing you and your classes at the Gallery! If you have any questions or would like to brainstorm possible ways you can use the collection in your teaching, please do not hesitate to contact the Academic Affairs team at yuag.acadaff@yale.edu.