



Learning with the Lowe

A Guide for Faculty



UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
LOWE ART MUSEUM



Lowe Art Museum

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

The Lowe Art Museum is open to all academic disciplines.

The Lowe Art Museum is an inspiring resource for faculty and students from all disciplines across the University of Miami's three campuses. We invite you to consider how engaging with the Lowe can help you achieve your teaching and learning goals.

MISSION: An integral part of the University of Miami, the Lowe Art Museum offers its diverse audiences opportunities and resources for engaging with contemporary culture through 5,000 years of human creativity.

VISION: The Lowe Art Museum touches lives and builds communities by serving as a laboratory for learning, a place for engagement and enrichment, and a site for self-discovery.



JACOB JORDAENS
(Flanders, 1593-1678)
The Judgment of Paris,
ca. 1620-1625
Oil on canvas
34 ½ x 44 ½ inches
61.046.000
Gift of The Samuel H. Kress
Foundation.
Lowe Art Museum,
University of Miami

ARTWORK @ THE LOWE

emuseum.miami.edu

Founded in 1950 with major funds from philanthropists Joe and Emily Lowe, the Lowe Art Museum is Miami-Dade County's first art museum and the only such institution in our region with a truly comprehensive collection. Today, the Lowe's holdings comprise more than 19,250 objects and span 5,000 years of human creativity. These works are highlighted in the Museum's seven permanent collection galleries, which feature art from the Americas, Africa, Asia, and Europe, as well as Modern and Contemporary art, including glass and ceramics. Additionally, the Lowe presents up to four exhibitions in the fall and spring semesters, as well as two summer shows. Like the Lowe's permanent displays, these exhibitions highlight a broad range of cultures, eras, media, and viewpoints, providing a compelling platform for education, enrichment, and engagement.

PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT

Activity	Museum Location	Advance Notice
Self-guided Tour	Galleries	1 week
Curriculum-based Tour	Galleries	3 weeks
Workshop	Galleries	3 weeks
Classroom / Single Meeting	Art Research Center	2 weeks
Artwork from Storage	Art Research Center	4 weeks
Classroom / Semester	Art Research Center	8 weeks



BENEFITS OF ENGAGING WITH ART¹

- Nurtures an appreciation for cultural differences.
- Enhances observation skills.
- Cultivates focused attention through slow looking.
- Fosters communication skills and teamwork.
- Promotes dialogue and collaboration among students.
- Encourages creative problem solving.
- Creates respect for different points of view.
- Builds connections between the academic course and material culture.
- Increases students' self-awareness as learners.

¹ Adapted from Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College & Conservatory, *Teaching with Art in the Science Curriculum*, (Oberlin College & Conservatory, Oberlin, Ohio).

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESS, AND INCLUSION ("DEAI")

The Lowe is committed to ensuring that all people feel welcome. It is equally dedicated to providing visitors with the tools they need to maximize opportunities for education, enrichment, engagement, and enjoyment through the Museum's exhibitions and programs.

CUSTOMIZABLE TOURS

The Lowe offers gallery tours for both permanent collection and temporary exhibitions, which can be tailored to your course topics and learning objectives. We collaborate with faculty to provide active, object-based learning experiences for students.

WHAT IS OBJECT-BASED LEARNING?

Object-based learning uses artworks, artifacts, and archival materials to inspire deep critical thinking and learning experiences. Wonder, awe, curiosity, and engagement are central to this approach. Unique or rare objects serve as testaments of creativity, inspiring a connection between the past and the present.

The following approaches to object-based learning demonstrate how the Lowe and its collection can support a virtually limitless array of academic disciplines.

Approaches for Object-based Learning

The following approaches provide interdisciplinary options for object-based teaching and learning. *They are only examples; there are many other possibilities for collaborating with the Lowe.*

ENGAGE WITH CONTEMPORARY CULTURE

The Lowe provides a forum for students to engage with the past while considering cultural concerns of the present and future.

VISUAL LITERACY

How do object-based learning, research, and scholarship inspire deeper observations, descriptions, analyses, and interpretations?

- *Careful analyses of art, artifacts, and other objects associated with material culture provide opportunities for students to hone their visual literacy skills.*

CONNECT WITH HUMAN CREATIVITY

Students can find inspiration for their own creative expression in our galleries. All art forms—from poetry to painting, dance to design—can be ignited by exposure to the Lowe's collections.



ART, LAW, and ETHICS

What legal and ethical concerns govern the possession, stewardship, and display of specific works of art?

- *From intellectual property concerns to provenance research, students and faculty can explore the intersection of art, law, and ethics through a wide array of lenses at the Lowe.*

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

How do you respond to an object? How does artwork at the Lowe connect with your interests? How does creativity move you to think about innovation?

- *Students in the "Voice and Speech Theatre" course develop and perform monologues inspired by artwork in the Lowe's collection. They perform their work in front of the object that inspired them and before a public audience.*

COMMUNICATION

A visit to the Lowe can inspire a desire to learn more and catalyze lively, engaged discussion, dialogue, and debate with and between students.

- *The Lowe works with students from the Intensive English Program who practice their communication skills by looking at artwork and engaging in discussion.*



A LABORATORY FOR LEARNING

Describing, analyzing, and interpreting art is similar to the scientific method and other problem-solving modalities. The Lowe's collection provides opportunities to test new ideas and to practice critical thinking.

COGNITIVE SCIENCE

What is the impact of what you see and experience at the Museum? How does your knowledge shape what you see? How do the sensations you experience during your visit affect your perception and memory?

- *The Lowe partners with the School of Education and Human Development on using the art collection for lesson plan development. Museums work with experts in Cognitive Science to measure the impact of museum visits on learning outcomes.*



(above & detail)
DALE CHIHULY
(United States, b. 1941)
Mosaic Persian, 1998/2018
Gift of Dale and Doug Anderson
2017.2
Lowe Art Museum,
University of Miami



TECHNOLOGY

How can technology enhance our understanding and interpretation of objects?

- *Students in the Art History and Classics course "Animating Antiquity" use photogrammetry to produce 3-D printed versions of sculptures from the Lowe's antiquities collection.*

A PLACE FOR ENGAGEMENT AND ENRICHMENT

The Lowe's comprehensive permanent collection complements courses related to the following cognates: People & Society; Arts & Humanities; and STEM.

MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES

Which materials did the artist use? How was a specific work of art made? How did the object's design elements contribute to its final form?

- ... *The Lowe partners with professors from the College of Engineering for the course, "Practical Innovation: Polyineering." Using artwork as a tool for discovery, students participate in teams, learn more about materials, and consider the meaning of innovation.*

CONTEXT

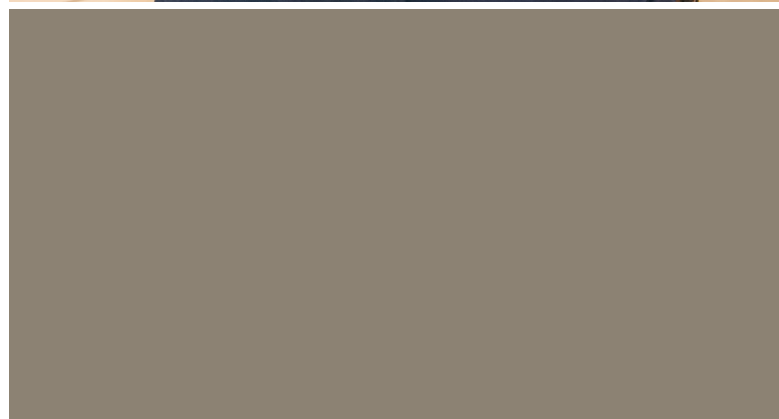
Who made a specific work? When was it made? Where was it made? Why was it made? What are the cultural, social, religious, or political contexts that relate to it? What are potential interpretations of the work? Who has owned it? Why is it in the collection?

- ... *Religious Studies classes visit the Lowe to examine material culture from the ancient Mediterranean to enhance their understanding of religious topics from their courses.*

CURATORIAL

Which criteria inform decisions about how and where to display a given work of art? What do we know about the object and what is the source of this information?

- ... *During the Spring semester, the Lowe partners with a University of Miami faculty member and their students to curate an exhibition as part of the annual ArtLab @ the Lowe. Students select a theme for their exhibition and choose objects to research from collections at the Lowe, Special Collections, the Cuban Heritage Collection, or University Archives. This hands-on opportunity teaches students how to curate a museum show from start to finish.*





SITE FOR SELF-DISCOVERY

As students learn about specific works of art on a curriculum-based visit to the Lowe, they discover more about themselves and their peers.

VISUAL THINKING STRATEGIES / VTS

A participant-centered teaching methodology, VTS encourages students to look carefully, think critically, communicate effectively, and listen actively. VTS also offers opportunities to practice team-building skills and self-awareness.

... *The Lowe uses Visual Thinking Strategies and art as tools to maximize the impact of its **Fine Art of Health Care** inter-professional program for students and professionals in Medicine, Nursing, Physical Therapy, and Mental Health. Participants fine-tune their observational, analytical, and communication skills, all of which are important in clinical settings. They also learn about self-care, as they are encouraged to slow down and unwind in the Museum's galleries.*



Photography:

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Evan F. Garcia/University of Miami
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Byron Maldonado
Sid Hoeltzell Photography



ADDITIONAL WAYS TO ENJOY THE LOWE ART MUSEUM

SEEK REFUGE

Escape your everyday routine and unwind in the Lowe's galleries.

MINDFULNESS SESSIONS

Attend a mindfulness session to gain focus.

ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO VISIT THE MUSEUM ON THEIR OWN

Create an assignment for students to complete at the Lowe independently.

OFFER YOUR CREATIVE OR ACADEMIC TALENTS

Inquire about ways to share your knowledge and interests with an essay, lecture, public program, or even extended wall labels and didactic texts.

GALLERY TALKS, LECTURES, AND PROGRAMS

Attend a public program and invite your students to do the same. See our full events calendar at lowe.miami.edu.

CREATE (Cultural Resources, Engagement, Academics, Technology, and Enrichment)

Consider applying for an Andrew W. Mellon CREATE Grant. Faculty-led CREATE projects are interdisciplinary and feature artwork, artifacts, or archives from the Lowe Art Museum or UM Libraries. Funding typically ranges between \$2,000 and \$6,000 per project. Please see create.miami.edu.

It is the policy of the Lowe Art Museum to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request materials in accessible format, sign language interpreters, and/or any accommodation to sponsored programs or meetings, please contact the Lowe Art Museum at least five days in advance to initiate your request.

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ADMISSION INFORMATION FOR FACULTY AND STUDENTS

All University of Miami faculty, staff, and students are entitled to free general admission at the Lowe. Please note that there may be a cost for ticketed special events, such as exhibition openings, public receptions, and evening lectures.

Annual memberships are also available to faculty and students from any institution of higher education, including the University of Miami. For further information see: lowe.miami.edu/support.

CONTACT

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