

# MELTON GALLERY INTERNSHIP

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## *A POSTER PRESENTATION*

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## *EXTENDED ABSTRACT*

The Melton Gallery Internship at the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) offers inter-disciplinary transformative learning opportunities to students majoring Art and Museum Studies through hands-on learning experiences. The work of this internship includes; 1) a research paper project on one of the artworks from the Melton Legacy Collection, 2) presenting research at Oklahoma Research Day and possible art history conference, 3) publishing opportunities, 4) assisting with daily gallery operations and collection management. All of these activities will help prepare the students for work in their chosen fields and provide them a safe environment in which to practice the skills they learn in class.

Objectives for this intern program follow the Central Six and Transformative Learning method that is core to the academic educational discipline of UCO.

- 1) **Discipline Knowledge:** Students in different academic disciplines (Museum Studies and Global Art and Visual Culture) will work together to develop and enhance each other's inter-disciplinary knowledge, experience, and professionalism.
- 2) **Leadership:** Students will learn the importance of self-motivation and being a self-starter in order to become a competent leader.
- 3) **Problem Solving (Research, Creative and Scholarly Activities):**
  - a. Students will practice and enhance their academic research skills and critical thinking skills.
  - b. Students will learn the significance of Melton Legacy Collection and contribute to the existing knowledge about the collection through the research project.
  - c. Students will be required to present their research at Transformative Learning Conference, Oklahoma Research Day and to submit researches to other conferences.
- 4) **Service Learning & Civic Engagement:**
  - a. Students will learn the basic daily gallery operation including, greeting visitors, managing the facility, and acting as a docent.
  - b. Students will be job-shadowing the professional gallery management and collection management.
- 5) **Global and Cultural Competency:**
  - a. Students will engage in the multi-perspective research project through the Melton Legacy Collection, which consists of 62 paintings and drawings from 16<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> century European and American art.
  - b. Students will learn the significance of cultural capital in our society and will be able to develop a broader perspective of the global culture through visual art.
- 6) **Health and Wellness:**
  - a. Students will learn about and practice safety in the work environment.

- b. Students will be able to engage in academic discussions and being able to articulate his/her opinions while respecting others and opposite opinions.

The assessment criteria of this intern program will be provided on a poster basing on those objectives.

The poster will be a collaborative work between the student intern and her supervisor. The content will be divided in two; one half will be organized by the supervisor explaining the art gallery intern project and how the program benefits both gallery and student, and ultimately how this intern program is aspired to transform student through interdisciplinary projects. The other half will be organized by a student intern showcasing what she has accomplished and explaining her cognitive change of her idea and profession of a gallery/museum professional.

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For further information, contact the lead presenter:

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