PENN / USEUM



Beyond the Label

Gallery Visit

Building on Class Knowledge Series

Great for: courses with subjects or themes that overlap with material on display in the galleries

Class Time One visit of 1-1.5 hours

Class Level Introductory to Intermediate Undergraduate

Class Size Flexible

Objectives Connect themes, subjects, or approaches from class with real examples; practice

critical thinking and information synthesis; hone research and analytical skills.

Prep Create a short essay prompt asking students to select an object(s) from the

gallery and use it to respond to a question or ask them to relate it back to the

themes of the class.

Visit Students visit the galleries to select an item and spend time examining it.

Post Students write a short essay to respond to your prompt.

Examples:

- Students in Introduction to Native American and Indigenous Studies select objects from the
 Native American Voices exhibition that connect to each of the themes from the course case
 studies (new directions in collaborative research; issues in museum representation and
 repatriation; heritage site protection and Indigenous archaeology; legal interventions and
 protections for Indigenous rights; and innovative projects in language restoration and cultural
 recovery) and explain how they connect to each theme.
- Students from Narrative in Ancient Art select an ancient object on display. Students provide a
 description of the image, then answer some of the following questions: What kind of narrative
 is used? How can you tell? Is there more than one type used? What moment(s) are included or
 excluded? How does the narrative scene shown relate to its story as a whole?