



Arms & Armor / Decorative Arts Intern

The Worcester Art Museum invites undergraduate and graduate students to join our Curatorial Division as an Arms & Armor / Decorative Arts Intern. This semester-long internship offers a hands-on opportunity to work closely with the Museum's nationally significant collection of early arms and armor while gaining practical experience in curatorial practice.

Please note: this is an unpaid internship, and participation requires enrollment in an academic program that provides course credit.

Working under the guidance of the Curator of Arms & Armor and European Decorative Arts, the intern will contribute to active projects that support exhibitions, collections research, and interpretation. This experience is designed to provide a meaningful introduction to museum work, with opportunities to build research, documentation, and project development skills in a collaborative, professional environment. Projects will be shaped by both departmental needs and the intern's interests and strengths and will culminate in a portfolio-quality outcome.

Interns will engage in a range of curatorial activities, which may include exhibition development, object research and cataloging, and archival research. The role offers exposure to how collections-based scholarship informs public interpretation, and how museums translate research into engaging visitor experiences. Interns may also contribute to the development of interactive exhibition elements and interpretive materials.

We're looking for students who are curious, thoughtful, and eager to learn through hands-on experience. A strong interest in art, history, or material culture—along with a willingness to ask questions, engage deeply with objects, and work both independently and collaboratively—is more important than prior museum experience.

Position Details

Position Title: Arms & Armor / Decorative Arts Intern

Department: Curatorial

Division: Curatorial

Employment Type: Internship (unpaid; must be completed for academic credit)

Supervisory Responsibilities: None

Key Qualifications

- Current undergraduate or graduate student eligible to receive academic credit through their institution



- Coursework in relevant fields (e.g., art history, history, museum studies, decorative arts, or related areas)
- Strong research, writing, and organizational skills
- Comfort working with detailed information and managing documentation
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office; experience with collections databases is a plus

Schedule & Timing

This is an ongoing internship program offered during the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. Each internship aligns with an academic term. Fall applications are typically reviewed in August, Spring in December, and Summer in March.

Hours are flexible and are usually 8–10 hours per week during the Fall and Spring semesters, and 20–30 hours per week during the Summer. The typical schedule includes one to two weekdays between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM, arranged in coordination with the supervisor.

About the Internship

This is an unpaid, credit-bearing internship. Interns must receive academic credit through their college or university.

How to Apply

Please submit your application materials to collectionsandexhibitions@worchesterart.org

About WAM

The Worcester Art Museum connects people, communities, and cultures through the experience of art. Our wide-ranging exhibitions tell global stories—from art made thousands of years ago to works being created today. The Museum’s collection of nearly 40,000 objects, assembled since its opening in 1898, provides a foundation to connect visitors of all ages with art, artists, and the ideas they spark. With strong ties to both our local community and the international art world, the Worcester Art Museum is an essential cultural venue for Central Massachusetts and beyond.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility at WAM: At WAM we are committed to building a diverse environment, one where staff feel a sense of belonging, and are valued for their contributions and the perspectives they bring. Please visit our Mission, Vision, and Values page to learn more.

The Museum is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity.