

2026–2027 Mulvane Art Museum College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Fellowship Program

Program Description and Call for Applicants

This fellowship supports innovative curriculum development and the integration of the Mulvane Art Museum’s collection in teaching. Fellows will be asked to develop a museum visit lesson plan and at least two object-based learning assignments to be integrated into their teaching during the spring 2027 semester. After the fellowship period, they will lead a CTEL workshop about incorporating the Mulvane collection in teaching. Fellows will receive a \$2,000 stipend provided by the College, an introduction to the Mulvane collection, and ongoing curricular support.

What is Object-Based Learning?

Objects are powerful cross-disciplinary tools that can spark curiosity, deepen understanding, and bridge the divide between theory and practice. Object-based learning uses works of art, archival documents, archaeological artifacts, natural specimens, and other objects to encourage close observation and critical thinking. It is an active, experiential form of learning that promotes visual literacy, communication skills, lateral thinking, inquiry, reasoning, and empathy.

About the Mulvane Art Museum

Washburn’s Mulvane Art Museum opened in 1924, becoming one of the first art museums established west of the Mississippi. The museum houses a collection of 7,000 objects from around the world, including paintings, prints, drawings, sculptures, photographs, and decorative art. While international in scope, the collection has a strong concentration of American art, particularly works by artists from Kansas and the surrounding region. In addition to displaying works from the collection, the Mulvane presents special exhibitions featuring artists from around the world.

In 2019, the Mulvane Art Museum joined the College of Arts and Sciences. Faculty from all disciplines will find objects in the museum that resonate with their course content.

Eligibility

- All full-time College of Arts and Science faculty members are eligible to apply.

Award Criteria

- Applications will be reviewed by the Mulvane director in consultation with other museum staff and with the dean.
- Preference will be given to proposals with the potential to be integrated into curriculum that is taught on a regular basis.

Terms of Appointment

- The fellowship period is the 2026–2027 academic year.
- In fall 2026, fellows will meet with the Mulvane director to receive an introduction to the museum collection and to discuss preliminary fellowship plans.
- Fellows will create and implement a lesson plan for at least one museum class visit and at least two object-based student assignments during the spring 2027 semester.
- At the end of the fellowship period, fellows will write a 500–1000 word reflection. Include descriptions of all museum learning activities, student responses to the activities, and a discussion of how the fellowship enhanced your teaching. Reflections are due to the Mulvane director on May 21, 2027.
- Fellows will present a CTEL workshop in fall 2027 to share their experiences working with the Mulvane collection.
- Payment will be issued upon completion of the fellowship period in June 2027.

Application

The application is available through Dynamic Forms [here](#). Applications must be received by September 30, 2026.