

Research, Teaching, and Learning with the University Art Museum

Fall 2025-Spring 2026 Exhibition and Experiential Learning Opportunities

Centrally located on campus and welcoming to all, the University Art Museum is a hub for experiential learning and cross-disciplinary dialogues unlike those found in conventional classrooms. We invite faculty to bring their classes to the University Art Museum to discover the advantages that experiential, exhibition-based learning can bring to their courses.

On View August 2025 - April 2026



Noel W Anderson: Black Excellence

Noel W Anderson's largest and most comprehensive solo museum exhibition to date will feature his stretched and suspended Jacquard tapestries depicting digitally altered archival and media images centered on Black identity, labor, and performance, alongside a newly commissioned video work.

Anderson's altered images include public figures of Black male exceptionalism (performers, athletes), police photos, and *Ebony* magazine pages. The artist distresses, dyes, and stains his textiles and physically picks them apart thread by thread. His digital and physical manipulations disrupt the images' narratives and begin to tell a different story.

Underscoring notions of Black performativity, the two-story open floor plan of the UAM will act as an arena-like space, offering vantage points to experience the exhibition from above and below, compelling the viewer to reflect on their role as participant, observer, or witness.

IMAGE: Noel W Anderson, We Give 'Em Reverend Brown (detail), 2023, dyed, picked and distressed cotton tapestry, 110 x 75 inches, courtesy of the artist

INCORPORATING THE UAM INTO YOUR CLASSES

Faculty can schedule self-guided visits or reach out to the UAM's Education Coordinator, Berly Brown <u>blbrown@albany.edu</u>, who is always ready to collaborate and assist. Experiential, exhibition-based learning can strengthen core skills that are transferrable to a variety of disciplines and frameworks:

Skills and practices exercised through exhibition-based learning:

- Inquiry-based learning
- Critical thinking and connecting abstract ideas to visual evidence
- · Visual literacy and observational skills
- Improved communication through exploratory writing and discussions

Advantages of teaching in the museum:

- Provides opportunities for experiential learning and collaborative thinking
- · Generates research ideas
- Change of location can heighten students' attention and receptivity and re-energize classroom dynamics and discussions