Graduate Research Assistantships
2016–17

Graduate Research Assistantships at the Yale Center for British Art and the Yale University Art Gallery are designed to provide Yale University doctoral students, in their second through sixth year, the opportunity to work as part of an intellectual team on a major scholarly project at one of the museums. These research positions enhance the educational experiences provided by academic course work and teaching assistantships at the university, allowing students to extend their range of academic specializations and expertise, and to augment research skills by direct contact with objects in the collections. Although the positions are not restricted to those students who wish to pursue a museum career, students gain in-depth knowledge of the scholarly and logistical aspects of exhibition preparation and develop other professional skills.

Research assistantship positions are open to graduate students in all disciplines. Up to three GRAs will be awarded, two at the Center, and one at the Gallery.

Applicants for research assistantship positions at the Gallery may also be considered for Gallery curatorial internships. However, curatorial internships, unlike research assistanships, involve a flexible number of work hours, and may not be substituted for a teaching requirement.

Deadline for Application: March 11, 2016
Short-listed applicants will be contacted for interviews with faculty and museum staff representatives in April.

PROCESS OF APPLICATION
The application process is formal and competitive. Research assistantships are equivalent to university teaching assistant positions and cannot be negotiated through conversation with curators. Students who wish to apply should send a statement of intent and curriculum vitae. It is suggested that students seek the approval of their Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) before applying.

FINANCIAL TERMS AND DURATION
The stipend for 2016–17 will be $10,650 per semester.

Research assistantships are being offered for one or two semesters, as indicated. Full-year GRAs are initially awarded for one semester and are renewed for the second semester after a midyear review, at the discretion of the supervising curator and DGS. At the discretion of the DGS, students in their second and third years may substitute up to two semesters of research assistantship in lieu of fulfilling the teaching requirements. If, in an extraordinary case, a student wishes to pursue the same project for a third or fourth semester, he or she may be allowed to continue.

No positions beyond those described here can be financed at full stipend level or counted in lieu of teaching requirements. If a student holds a university fellowship, the research assistantship replaces the fellowship for the year in which the student holds the position.

CONTACT
Please e-mail (as an attached Word document) a letter of application and curriculum vitae to:
Lisa Ford, Assistant Director of Research
Yale Center for British Art: lisa.ford@yale.edu

Inquiries may also be addressed to Lisa Ford (lisa.ford@yale.edu or 203 432 9805).
The Center’s collection of rare books and manuscripts contains approximately thirty-five thousand titles, consisting of material relating to the visual arts and cultural life in the United Kingdom and former British Empire from the sixteenth century to the present. Particular strengths include illustrated “color-plate” books from the renowned J. R. Abbey Collection, sporting books and manuscripts, early maps and atlases, early printed books by William Caxton and his contemporaries, private press books and contemporary artist books, drawing manuals, and archival and manuscript material relating to British artists of all periods. The research assistant will work on one or more projects, creating detailed descriptions of manuscripts and archival material within the collection. The descriptions composed by the research assistant will enable immediate scholarly access to the material. The goal of this project is to make the department’s manuscript and archival collections more available to students and researchers by identifying subjects of interest to not only art historians but social, political, and cultural historians. The department will attempt to match the applicant with project material that matches the student’s academic interests and expertise. Possible projects include working on material related to eighteenth-century exploration, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century artists’ correspondence, twentieth-century book arts, maps and atlases, or ephemera from all periods.

Collection-based Academic Outreach
Supervised by Cyra Levenson
Curator of Education and Academic Outreach

The Department of Research and Education seeks a graduate research assistant to assist the Curator of Education and Academic Outreach with the development of collection-based outreach. This position will focus on developing strategies and programming to encourage interdisciplinary research within the collection. Focused on efforts to engage faculty and graduate students from across the university, projects might include the development of podcasts, web-based interpretive tools, informal object-based study sessions, gallery talks, and arts-based research collaborations.