

**ARLIS/NA + VRA 3<sup>rd</sup> Joint Conference 2016 | Seattle**  
**Poster Session**

**Art Instead of Just Images: Training Students to See Beyond the Screen** — *Lael J. Ensor*, Assistant Curator, Visual Resources Collection, Johns Hopkins University

As visual resources and art library professionals we often interact with students who may have virtually no experience in the humanities—how might we train such students to look at works of art? Our time is frequently limited—it can be difficult to find the time to train student employees who may only work a few hours per week or assist student patrons with whom we may only have brief meetings. We might have extensive discipline specific or visual literacy training, but how can we practically prepare students without any such training to understand both how to read an image of art and how images may add value to their studies? How might we instill intensive technical and pedagogical knowledge and basic methodology in a clear and efficient way? Such training both improves the quality of student work and of collections and augments students' skill sets for future work in their own fields or in their day-to-day lives. With limited time and resources it is necessary to explore the concrete application of training complex concepts. Handouts to include specific examples, suggestions, and a guide for discussion.