

MUSEUM PAPER

This assignment will involve looking at and writing about something you can experience in person, instead of through photographs, and thus will require you to travel to a local museum. A couple of museums in the area have collections that are relevant to this course:

1. The Cantor Center for Visual Arts at Stanford University the admission is free, though if you must go on a weekday you will need to pay for parking. The Greek and Roman works are presented together with Early European Art.
2. The Rosicrucian Museum in San Jose has an interesting collection of Egyptian art and replicas of ancient pieces. The building and gardens are also worth a trip. If you go there please choose a real ancient work and not one of the replicas in the collection. For your paper, please choose a work of art and not a mummy.
3. The Legion of Honor in San Francisco has a number of antiquities in the downstairs hall, near the coffee shop.

Your assignment is to pick one work of art that was created in one of the styles we have studied in the course, and write a 3-4 page paper exploring and analyzing it, based on close observation and research.

Take a pad of paper and a pencil with you so that you can record your thoughts as they occur to you. Spend some time in front of your chosen work/s of art and observe as many details as possible.

Take note of:

- Size
- Shape
- Material
- Condition of the work
- Colors
- Texture and patterns
- Lines and shapes (type and direction, organic or geometric etc.)
- Brushwork, chisel (visible or not?)
- Treatment of mass and space (flat or 3D space? Overlapping? Foreshortening? Solid or empty spaces for sculpture)
- Motion (stiff or sense of movement?)
- Balance (symmetrical/asymmetrical)
- Scale and proportion (Hierarchical scale?)
- Artist, period, theme, iconography, purpose, context. Does the work's style fit the period in which it was created?

Research

Your research should include reliable, relevant and updated sources.

You can find on line academic sources through the De Anza college library site.

Additionally, if you live in San Jose, Link+[<http://csul.iii.com/>] will enable you to order books from various libraries that will deliver them to your neighborhood library. To use their free services, you must first become a member of San Jose Public Library.

Citations

When you incorporate material from a written or on-line source, you must acknowledge each instance of this in a citation. Your paper should contain both footnotes (which provide name of author and page numbers) and a list of works cited at the end of the paper. The format of citation should be consistent throughout the paper. Here is a helpful website where you can find the MLA and the Chicago citations styles:

<http://library.duke.edu/research/citing/>

To avoid plagiarism, you must give credit whenever you use:

- Another person's idea, opinion, or theory.
- Any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings—any pieces of information—that are not common knowledge.
- Quotations of another person's actual spoken or written words.
- Paraphrase of another person's spoken or written words.

Format and How to Submit Your Paper

Present your paper in typewritten, double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font format. All pages should be numbered and have 1-inch margins on all sides. Your paper should have:

- A separate title page with your name, the title of your paper, the name of the artwork/s you chose, the artist's name (if known) and the date and region where it was made. Additionally include the name of the museum you visited, and the date you were there.
- Your admission ticket scanned. (If you go to the Cantor you should get a confirmation note at the Information Desk and a photo of yourself in front of the museum.)
- A photo of the work you chose.
- You must submit it through Turnitin.com. No hard copy needed.

Papers will be assigned number grades based on the following criteria:

1. Paper is aimed to the assignment and all requested elements are included - 15 points
2. Paper is well structured and has a clear thesis. Ideas are supported with sufficient evidence - 10 points
3. Sufficient research. Appropriate sources - 10 points
4. Grammar, spelling, mechanics - 6 points
5. Originality - 5 points
6. Correct format of citations - 4 points

TOTAL: 50 points