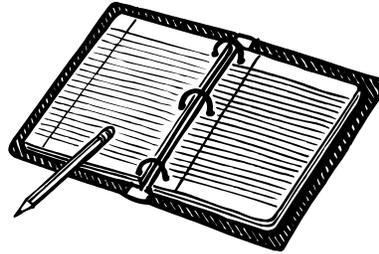


Art History: Theories and Approaches

ARH456 01

Spring 2012

Research Paper Guidelines



The focus of the research paper is on a publication that has made a significant contribution to our thinking about art history.

Once you select this publication, you will then want to make a careful analysis of it, and to consider, when relevant, the following questions:

1. How does this publication fit into the author's intellectual development (her or his education, other publications, and so on)?
2. What are the author's main contributions to our thinking about art?
3. Are there significant biographical, political, social, or other circumstances that influence or are otherwise related to the author's viewpoint?
4. What are the main ideas and/or arguments in the publication? Are these logical, coherent, or convincing? Why or why not?
5. Have other authors endorsed or criticized the publication? What are the bases for their support and/or criticisms? What is your own opinion?

Requirements of the Research Paper

Length.

All term papers must be between 10 and 15 double-spaced, typewritten pages (using one-inch margins and a 12-point font).

Research.

To write your papers, you must consult *at least* six sources; these sources might include books, journal articles, exhibition catalogues, and book reviews. Only one of these sources may come from the Internet (and when using the Internet, please draw upon only materials that are signed by an author). (JSTOR articles count as non-Internet sources, since they appear in the exact form in which they were published on paper.)

Documentation of Research (Footnotes or Endnotes and Bibliography).

All ideas and facts coming from your research **MUST** be cited in footnotes (bottom of the page) or endnotes (gathered at the end of the paper). All these must be written following the humanities variation of the *Chicago Manual of Style*, which is the style guide used in art-historical writing. If you are not familiar with this footnote style, please consult either an online Chicago style guide, or Sylvan Barnet's *A Short Guide to Writing about Art*. The bibliography also must follow Chicago style.

How to Write Titles.

Titles of works of art, of books, and of names of journals or newspapers are *italicized*. Titles of articles in journals or newspapers are placed in "quotation marks."

Deadlines

February 14	Topic proposal (two double-spaced, typewritten pages)
March 6	Preliminary bibliography
April 10	Draft of research paper (typewritten and double-spaced)
May 8	Final research paper

Some Helpful Tips

To assist you in writing a paper that communicates well to the reader, it will be helpful for you to keep the following questions in mind:

1. Have I organized my research and ideas clearly, so that I guide the reader as I move from one thought to the next?
2. Is my discussion constructed so that I state clearly what I want to say, and then say it?
3. Do I back up my arguments and interpretations with concrete examples and/or descriptions, so that I *show* my readers what I mean?
4. Have I done sufficient research to analyze my topic from a position of some authority?
5. Have I documented all ideas and facts taken from the research in footnotes or endnotes and also in my bibliography?