

Art History Research Paper

Your research paper is an opportunity to explore in greater detail, and with focus, ideas and issues related to your proposed project. You should approach it as a liberal arts paper with a thesis, or your own proposed position on the topic while showing an awareness of other relevant academic positions.

Since most of your papers are art history papers I also want you to consider historic context in your inquiry. (For instance, if your research is on the pigments used in Venetian Renaissance painting, I want to know about the Venetian's trade routes, why they had unique access to certain pigments, and what it would have meant to the viewer or patron of a painting to see a color that could only have been produced with Afghani lapis. Or, if your paper is about theatre design and sculpture in Baroque Rome, I want to know why the Seventeenth century church emphasized the theatricality and sensuality of religion in contrast to the Renaissance church's intellectualism.) These contexts may only appear as brief references, or recurring "textures," but I want you to keep them in mind as you research and write.

The first step is to create a bibliography that you will e-mail to me. I advise using both the book catalogues and the online databases of journals and academic articles (for instance J-STOR) available through KCAI, UMKC, or other Missouri and Kansas colleges that are part of state-wide library consortiums. This way you can have access to books from some of the major university libraries outside of Kansas City (often essential for serious research). Remember that it may take a week to have books sent, so order them as soon as possible.

Once you have started to read you should start writing possible essay plans under a series of headings/sub-headings. **You should then produce a rough draft**, on which I will give you my feedback, before you re-write and produce a final draft. I always recommend printing out this final draft and leaving it untouched for a couple of days before you make your final adjustments – you will be surprised at all the things you catch if you look at it two days later with fresh eyes.

Your final research papers will be should be 10-15 pages long, double-spaced, 10-12 point. They should include appropriate footnotes or endnotes and a bibliography.

First bibliography due 13 July

e-mail to ninamehtayoung@hotmail.com

Rough draft 27 July

e-mail to ninamehtayoung@hotmail.com

or drop at my house

Nina Mehta-Young

5626 Cherry St, Kansas City, MO

816 822 2227

Final draft 10 August

As above