

Cultural Currents II, Winter 2018

Instructor: Dr. Natalia Pakhomova

Term Paper.

(30% of total grade)

Due dates: Annotated Bibliography (5%) – **February 8, 2017**

Outline (5%) – **March 13, 2017**

Final Paper (research essay)(20%) – **April 26, 2017**

1. **Strategy:**

Make a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts (Musée des Beaux-Arts: 1380 Sherbooke Street West) or attend a full-length live performance of your choice (live full-time theatre play, opera or ballet performance), **research** a cultural object and **write** about it.

2. **Content:**

Choose a work of art (painting, literature, performance or music) from the eras studied (Baroque, Enlightenment, Romanticism, or Modernism and Postmodernism), carry out a research on this work of art and analyze the significance of this work, find a controversy about it or its role.

Give a **very brief** summary of the chosen work(s) of art, provide some background information, and then focus on review of researched facts available from academic and other reliable sources.

Put the work of art in context. Consider questions of cultural object's impact. Where and why did it arise? What does the work try to convey? What is its message? How does its influence affect the more contemporary art or society at large?

Define your research question/questions, select your data, analyze the evidence and present what is relevant to your topic and discussion.

Your goal when writing the paper is to think critically. You have to show your ability to observe, to analyze the information, to question, to investigate and to synthesize.

You can take and express your position. Your position should be supported by clear arguments. Your personal impressions and personal commentary should be based on informed knowledge about the chosen cultural object and should be relevant to course discussions.

3. Format:

Write a 1000 word essay and discuss the above points. Be sure to include in your essay basic information such as titles, dates, locations, and sources.

The essay should be typed, double-spaced and indicate the word count at the end. It should follow the standard form of college essay writing and have a cover page (with title, date, your name and course information).

4. Structure:

Begin with a brief **introduction** where you state your topic and argument (try to formulate your **thesis**).

Introduction should then be followed by the **main part** of three to five paragraphs where you offer relevant information about your research, you provide your explanations and develop your argument.

Finally, it should be wrapped up with a **conclusion**.

Citations and works consulted, must be properly referenced and identified in footnotes, bibliography or in a "works cited" list at the end of the paper.

Your paper should follow **MLA** style.

Preparation of an Annotated Bibliography and an Outline is part of this project.

Note: If you attended an exhibition or a performance attach the program and ticket stub to your essay.

NB: Respect the deadlines (February 8, March 13 and April 26, 2017).

Late assignments will not be accepted.