

Arts 2L/ Intl 24 Final Paper Assignment

Cadge-Moore

NO late papers accepted without prior approval from the instructor.

*****Remember to proofread. You will be marked down for grammar, spelling or careless writing.**

This paper will be your final writing assignment for the quarter. It involves both a research component and a creative writing component. **You need to discuss both the cultural context of the art and describe its style and appearance.**

Make sure to include:

1. An introduction to the museum and the exhibits.
Make sure to include a clear thesis statement.
2. Descriptions of your art examples
3. Points of comparison between the examples
4. A brief discussion of cultural or historical context
5. Connections between the visual appearance of the works and possible function.
6. Conclusion
7. Bibliography of **four** sources and citations (footnotes or notes within the text) are **required**.

Include a word count (roughly 1200 - 1800 words total)

Visit the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Center for the Visual Arts, Stanford University, Palo Alto, **outside of regular class meeting time.** (www.stanford.edu/dept/ccva/, 650-723-4177, free admission, open Wed.-Sun. 11-5, Thur. 11-8, closed Mon, Tues.). Explore the museum's permanent collection of **African art** and observe how the art is exhibited. Choose two or three examples of art to describe and compare.

*****Take a photograph of yourself at the museum as proof of your visit. Attach the photo to your final paper.**

You may go to **the De Young Museum** in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, as an alternate choice using the African galleries – see www.famsf.org/deyoung/. The De Young Museum also has several examples of contemporary African art.

Write a 4-6 page (typed, double-spaced) essay. Introduce the museum and the exhibition. **Describe your examples of art in as much detail as possible using stylistic analysis.** See the class handout on stylistic analysis for help. Are there any visual qualities of the art that suggest its function?

After visiting the museum and choosing your objects, **find 4 resources** in addition to your class textbook (books, articles, videos, internet sources – Do not list Wikipedia as a source) to help you provide a brief context for your art examples. What is the cultural context of each object? You can focus upon one or more issues related to the social, cultural, historical, political, or ceremonial contexts – there are many ways of approaching this section. You might choose one of the themes we addressed in class this

quarter (for example, gender issues and African arts). You may also refer to information provided by the museum labels. **Make sure you discuss the historical or cultural context of the works.**

Possible Paper Topics:

Asante akuaba, Ghana	Bwa mask, Burkina Faso
Dan mask, Liberia	Kota reliquary guardian, Gabon
Chi Wara, Mali	Kongo Nkisi, Dem.Rep. of Congo
Boli, Mali	Makonde mask, Mozambique
Oshe Shango, Nigeria	Himba ekori headdress, Namibia
Ibeji, Nigeria	Zulu staffs, headrest, South Africa
Chokwe Chihongo mask, Angola	Sukuma mask, Tanzania

Contemporary artists (at De Young Museum): El Anatsui, Magdalene Odundo, Kane Kwei

Extra Credit Opportunities:

Visit **the De Young Museum** in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Explore the galleries covering arts from **Africa**. *****OR if you choose to write your paper about objects in the De Young collection, visit the Cantor Museum for extra credit instead.**

For general information and directions see www.famsf.org/deyoung/.

Write a **2-page (600 words – provide a word count)** typed paper of your impressions and analysis of the exhibitions. **Staple your entry ticket / museum handouts to your paper as proof of your visit.**

(up to 5 points possible)

OR

Optional Art Project: You may do an extra credit art project along with your paper. Ask instructor for project approval.

(up to 5 points possible)

MAXIMUM EXTRA CREDIT – 8 points.