

**ARTH 1103 Introduction to Art History  
FALL 2019**

**Paper #1:  
Formal Analysis and Comparison**

**Due date: Monday, October 7 by midnight. Please submit papers on Blackboard.  
Paper Length: 750 words (approx. 2 pages)**

This assignment gives you the opportunity to practice the basic methods of description and analysis in art history. This is not a research paper.

Instructions:

1. **Choose one art work** from the list below, find it on the internet or look at the pdf file on the OpenLab, and study the image carefully
2. Write a well-composed essay that describes the work of art, discussing its stylistic features and expressive qualities  
Your essay should:
  - a. Assess the special character of the painting by examining its formal qualities (ie, line, color, space, light, composition, etc.)
  - b. Consider how the art work evokes a response from you and use details to support your analysis
  - c. At the end of your formal analysis on the art work, describe a second image not from the list and explain why it reminds you of the first work.
3. **Choose a second image that is NOT on the list below** that reminds you of your selected art work. This second image can be taken from anything, posters, ads, comics, film stills, etc. The second image does not have to be the same subject matter, it just needs to *remind you* of the first, meaning you see similarities, which you will explain in your paper. Rest assured, there is not right or wrong answer. Your paper is assessed on how well you use descriptive details to support your arguments.
4. Please check spelling and grammar before you turn in the assignment.
5. Please submit your paper in .doc/x, .txt, .rtf or .pdf formats. Please do not submit in pages format, nor share a google doc.

Choose one of the following works of art for your **first image**:

*Sleeping satyr (Barberini Faun), c.230-200*

*Sarcophagus with battle of Romans and barbarians (Ludovisi Battle Sarcophagus), c.250-260*

*God as architect of the world, c.1220-1230*

Andrea Mantegna, *Foreshortened Christ*, c.1500

Pieter Aertsen, *Butcher's Stall*, c.1551

Henry Fuseli, *The Nightmare*, 1781

Caspar David Friedrich, *Wanderer above a Sea of Mist*, 1817-1818

James Abbott McNeill Whistler, *Nocturne in Black and Gold (The Falling Rocket)*, c. 1875

Vincent Van Gogh, *Self-portrait with bandaged ear*, c.1889

Frida Kahlo, *The Two Fridas*, 1939

**Please remember after describing this first image to compare it to a second image of your choice that is NOT on this list.**

(You are welcome to work on another image **but you must discuss it with me first.**)

Papers are submitted through **SafeAssign**. This program compares your text to other written sources available through google as well as an ever-growing database of student papers. Please do not copy and paste from other sources nor use extensive quotes. **You will receive a 0 if the matching rate exceeds 35%.**

**Late papers will be marked down by two points per day.**

**PLAGIARISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN ANY FORM.**

To “plagiarize” is defined by the *Oxford English Dictionary* as:

Take and use as one’s own (the thoughts, writings, inventions, etc., of another person); copy (literary works, ideas, etc.) improperly or without acknowledgment; pass off the thoughts, work, etc., of (another person) as one’s own. [Lesley Brown, ed., *The New Shorter Oxford English Dictionary*, 2 vols. (Oxford: 1993), 2:2231]

If you do additional research for the essay, you must cite all sources for your work, not just books and articles but also internet and non-traditional media sources. If you have any doubts or questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please do not hesitate to ask me in class, in office hours or via e-mail.