

Task

Select one piece or cohesive series of works that your chosen artist developed that you find influential. Based on your own observations, research (professional opinions), and analysis (your educated opinions), in terms of materials, craft, form, subject matter, concept, context, and relating the work to the artist's larger body of work and influences, write a cohesive paper saying the most about the specific work or series as possible, using the fewest possible words. Additionally research and include information about the work(s) reception within the art community and/or larger public. This pursuit in formal writing, observation and research will test not only your interpretive skills and knowledge, but also your ability to express these things clearly and economically in writing. Your accuracy in artistic critical analysis and observations will be graded along side your communication (writing) skill.

This paper is 20% of your final grade in WASH contemporary art + theory lecture.

Parameters (rules of the game)

Total written analysis may not exceed the number of sentences permitted for each requested piece of information from prescribed format for part I (the artist's work) and show address all requested areas in part II (imagine collaboration project) and III (peer interview). At first glance you may find the prescribed format restrictive, but it will guide and direct your research both for this project and provide a format you may use in analyzing other artist's of interest as well as yourself.

Include a color image printout of work or series of work of the quality and size that easily allows reader to understand the work, materials, and craft. If needed, include additional detail images of work relevant to your analysis. Internet images are notoriously low res and often translate horribly in print. Find print quality image(s) early in your process.

Find a grammatically correct way to adhere to the number of sentences for each item requested in format. Use writing genre (style) appropriate for an art journal (ie Art Forum, Art in America, etc).

Your research should include at least three sources beyond the Internet—professional journals (many of which are accessible online through our library ie JSTOR), books, newspaper articles, video interviews (online but also much more accessible through SHSU library website) with curators, critics, artists, etc. Many of professional journals are online as well as printed, thus an acceptable source. Wikipedia and such are not sources that will be accepted.

Use the MLA format for both style and citations.

Include a bibliography page to cite your sources according to MLA format.

There will not be room in your analysis to quote your sources directly. If you find an amazingly presented statement that you simply must include, you will need to do this in an appendix, labeled, "Valuable Quotations."

Late work is not accepted. Early submission is accepted.

Written Analysis Format [your 31 sentences]**Cover Page**

This page will present a quality printout of images of work selected. List the MLA image citation format directly below image and on your bibliography page.

Heading

Type the heading at the top of your first page of text according to the MLA style format.

Body (order + content)

Present the body of your writing in the following order and constraints. All of the items requested must be presented in complete and lovely academic sentences, footnoting paraphrases when appropriate. (Please present your sentences in the requested order. When we are grading your paper and do not see the required elements in their proper place, we will count off rather than search through your analysis for the required analysis.). Be sure to incorporate key WASH concepts you have been learning relevant to your artist, ie. tension, sampling, craftsmanship, etc.

Part I – DUE Friday, March 1 @ 9:30 am [Friday, March 22 @ 9:30 am. Revised version due]

ARTIST'S WORK—an analysis of artist's work, process, materials, subject matter, content, context, significant influences, and art world/public response.

First Paragraph—nature and overview of the artist’s work.

1. Your artist/designer’s country of origin; artistic or relevant training (include dates and places if available), primary occupation for which he/she is most recognized. (*requirement: 1 sentence*)
2. What medium(s) does your artist prefer to work within or why they don’t prescribe to a specific medium or set of mediums. Present your knowledge with evidence (this might take a lot of reading on your part). (*requirement: 2 sentences*)
3. What do the artist’s peers say about his/her work or relevant aspects of his/her career? (*requirement: 2 sentences*)
4. When and how does your chosen piece fit into the career and over all body of the artist’s work? (Was it an early work with a different style, theme, materiality, etc. than found in later works? Is it relevant to the evolution of the artist’s larger body of work? Was the selected work received differently than other works by this artist? Was it culturally controversial at the time of its making or later? Explore questions similar to these to understand how the piece fits into the artists overall body of work.) (*requirement: 2 sentences*)

Second Paragraph—analysis of the work.

1. Introductory sentence announcing the date, exhibition/gallery [manner of display], and circumstances surrounding the chosen work(s). (*requirement: 2 sentences*)
2. Statements directly discussing the material, form, craft, subject matter, concepts, context and the way they relate to one another and influence the viewers understanding. This is based on your informed observations of several images of the work NOT another’s opinion. You may create your own order of discussion of these items, but you must address all items. (*requirement: 6 sentences*)
3. Statements on the reception of the piece among the public and critics at the time it was first presented and later reception if it significantly changed over time (if not known, then general reception of artists larger body of related works). These statements are not to be based on your observations but paraphrasing key components of critical reviews (not exhibition promotional material) of the artist’s work by professionals as documented in art and/or design journals and papers. (*requirement: 2 sentences*)
4. Statements on how your analysis of the work is similar and varies from the published critical reviews. (*requirement: 2 sentences*)

Third Paragraph

1. Statement emphasizing how your chosen work fits into the overall bulk of the artist’s life works. (*requirement: 1 sentence*)
2. Comment on the importance/influence of this artist’s body of work within the art or design world in the artist’s own time and in our time. (*requirement: 2 sentences*)

Part II – DUE Friday, April 12 @ 9:30 am [note that part 3 is due prior to part 2]

YOUR WORK + THE ARTIST—a comparative analysis of artist’s working methods, materials, subject matter, content and context to your Imagine Collaborative studio piece highlighting how your artist influenced your work and choices and identifying were the work differs, and discussing the decisions you made in developing the work and final outcome.

Fourth Paragraph [imagine collaboration artifact]

1. Explain the rationale for your artistic choices in your imagine collaboration project for each of the following in terms of how you melded your work with the chosen artist’s work (*requirement: minimum 6 sentences*):
 - a. materials + method
 - b. formal themes
 - c. subject matter
 - d. conceptual themes
 - e. craftsmanship
 - f. presentationYou may create your own order of discussion of these items, but you must address all items.
2. Describe how the artistic choices you made and the imagined collaboration altered your previous working methods, material selection and usage, subject matter or concept. (*requirement: 3 sentences*)
3. Conclude with a closing summation about the impact/influence of your chosen artist on you. . (*requirement: 2 sentence*)

Part III – Friday, April 5 @ 9:30 am [interview questions DUE]

PEER’S INTERPRETATION—a comparative analysis of your and your peer’s Imagine Collaborative projects based on the same artist. Develop a set of interview questions [graded] for peer assigned same artist in preparation for analysis of their

interpretation and collaboration [of artist's source inspiration/influences, medium [methods + materials], subject matter, meaning, context] for their Imagine Collaboration studio piece.

Develop at least 7 questions around each of the following categories—artist (professional) and artist's (peer) [1] source inspiration/influences, [2] medium [methods + materials], [3] subject matter, [4] formal themes, [5] conceptual themes/meaning, [6] context, [7] presentation—that would be a minimum of 42 thoughtful and specific questions. This will be submitted April 5 (3 copies) plus stored in your appendix of research paper.

Fifth Paragraph [imagine collaboration interview insights from you peer]

1. Explain the rationale of your peer's artistic choices and their influences in their imagine collaboration project for each of the following in terms of how you melded your work with the chosen artist's work (*requirement: minimum 6 sentences*):
 - a. materials + method
 - b. formal themes
 - c. subject matter
 - d. conceptual themes
 - e. craftsmanship
 - f. presentation

The number of pages of body of research paper is irrelevant in terms of grade as long as you have followed the requirements for content-driven beautiful, descriptive, economic academic sentences.

APPENDIX

Images pages

- pg 1 – quality image or series of images of your selected artists work, as referred to in Part I
- pg 2 – quality series of photos documenting your imagine collab artwork, plus details. Part II
- pg 3 – quality photo documenting your peer's imagine collab artwork.

Interview Questions page

Include interview questions as a numbered list that you developed for Part III.
A minimum of 42 thoughtful and artist specific questions.

Bibliography (references) page

Typed on separate page according to MLA formatting.

Optional

Any appendices

Draft Due Dates [3 typed copies each due date, 12 pt type, double spaced, 1" margins – pre-proof]

Mar 1	Part I
Mar 22	Part 1 Revisions
Apr 5	Part III Interview Questions
Apr 12	Part II

Drafts for part I, II, III will represent 10% of the final research paper grade.

Final Version [Part I, II, III] of your Research Paper due **April 26 @ 9:30 am**

No late work is accepted

Resources

On www.WASHsam Lecture there are link to assist in formatting your writing according to the MLA standards and examples, works cited formatting, general writing tips, understanding and avoiding plagiarism, as well as overall brainstorming.

The SHSU library and its online access to academic art and design journals and videos is extremely helpful to aid your research beyond Google searches and YouTube.

The SHSU Writing Center (936.294.3680) is a wonderful resource. They assist all writing levels (even professor's submitting professional journal articles). They assist in helping YOU organize your paper, improve your writing style and clarity, identify, understand, and correct grammatical errors, and teach you proofreading techniques.