

Final paper: artifact report, 8-9 pages

Bibliography (25 points) and proposal (15 points) due: Fri, Dec 1

Final draft due: 7 PM, Wed, Dec 13 (75 points)

Locate an artifact, which you can physically examine and for whose colors, material components, and historical context you can find some background information.

This paper will consist of four parts:

- 1) Physical description. This should be written in objective language that avoids interpretation. Any use of museum or library catalogs must be referenced.
 - a. Media, dimensions, elements (color, designs, shapes), composition (organization of elements), texture
 - b. Note any discolorations, chipping, losses, etc., which may indicate the artifact's usage and passage through time
 - c. Context: original location and date, name of artist
- 2) Describe the context of the artifact (how it is made and what it is used for) through additional research beyond catalog information. This information should be as precise as possible and exclude speculation. In this section you will identify your artifact by type and provide basic historical information on the use of artifacts of this type. (i.e., propaganda poster, sports symbol, Catholic icon, etc.), and identify the major colors used and the material components of those colors.
- 3) Form three research questions to be used to analyze the meaning of the colors of this artifact in the culture that produced it. These questions should be based directly on your background research and each should link the color and material of the artifact to its meaning. Formulate the questions so that they are complex and address more than one aspect of the artifact. In addition, each question should show how you're using the theoretical approaches and terminology in the Rapport/Overing articles that you have chosen. (Not a general: what role did economy/politics/gender play in this? Or, what was the significance of this color to this culture?)
- 4) In this section, write directly about how three articles in Nigel Rapport and Joanna Overing's *Social and Cultural Anthropology: the key concepts* can be used to analyze your artifact. Show how these concepts contribute to an understanding of the context, complicate your understanding of color and meaning, and help answer your three research questions. This section should go beyond listing and defining terms to exploring their theoretical use, proving their relevance to your artifact. What you state should be supported by your background research.

All sources must be referenced in-text and in a bibliography in Chicago Style.

For background and context, use only academic sources (books, academic journal articles, and museum and library catalogues). Depending on the nature of your topic, you may need to use newspaper articles and interviews for information that is not covered by academic sources.