

Essay 1 Iconographic Meaning

This semester you will build a writing practice that makes mindful use of the art historical methodologies, and develops your critical thinking and research skills. Each essay will require a minimum of two footnote citations in Chicago Manual of Style (no bibliography) from two different, credible sources originating on paper.

While there is no page or word requirement, please refer to the the rubric in your syllabus for a detailed description of the grading metrics that will be used to evaluate your work. In addition, consider the following criteria:

- An average essay should be comprised of no less than four paragraphs considering the questions posed;
- An above average essay will build upon the questions posed with additional insights and information that are developed through the intentional use of art historical methodologies. A clear position will be apparent, and sources will seek to provide evidence that supports your claims.
- An exceptional essay will achieve the above while applying art historical methods with skill.

CMS Footnote Citation Format

- Book
1 Author's Name, Title (Place of Publication: Publisher, date), page numbers.
- Article
2 Author's Name, "Article Title," Journal Title (date): page numbers.
- Article in Online Journal
3 Author's Name, "Article Title," Journal Title (date): page numbers, access date, URL or doi.
- Website
4 "Page Title," Website Title, date last modified, URL.

Read Erwin Panofsky's *Jan Van Eyck's Arnolfini Portrait* (1934) and consider the following:

Choose an Early Renaissance painting and consider the artist's use of "disguised symbolism" in the work. What philosophical concern of the age led artists to develop this method of conveying meaning? Identify at least five objects/subjects that are depicted in the work and discuss their meaning. Does the work utilize other systems such as hierarchic scale to convey meaning? Consider the distinction that Panofsky makes between "iconography" an "iconology," and be sure to describe what your writing activity is engaging in.