

ART 100 PAPER 2: VARIATIONS ON A THEME

- ✓ Due **Thursday, May 10** (bring to final exam)
- ✓ 500-words minimum
- ✓ Avoid losing points! Read the directions closely & follow the paper guidelines

PAPER TOPIC & DIRECTIONS

Certain themes in art pop up again and again, in different centuries, cultures, & contexts. **Choose one theme listed here & examine how it is expressed in two works of art (listed here).**

Your paper should:

1. examine the different ways the artists communicate the theme using the visual elements & principles of design
2. consider major cultural & historical factors that shaped these perspectives

PAPER GUIDELINES

- You'll probably need to consult sources for info about the works of art you choose & to learn about the factors that influenced their appearance.
- For any info you include in your paper (*that's not common knowledge or your own ideas*), **you need to cite sources.**
- I encourage you to use the links included with the images below and/or the reading assignments posted on Blackboard. If you cite info from the links/readings, you can simply include parenthetical reference like this: (*link*) or (*Blackboard, title of assignment*)
- **If you cite other sources:**
 - be sure they're **reliable sources**—*edited or authored by an expert*
 - include a more complete citation using **Chicago/Turabian Style for the Humanities**
- **FYI:** Correct spelling, grammar, & a polished presentation factor into your grade too!

YOU *DO* NEED TO CITE

- *If you quote or paraphrase someone's ideas or words*
- *Any info that's not common knowledge (i.e. detailed background info on the artwork, artist, history)*

YOU *DON'T* NEED TO CITE

- *Things that are common knowledge (i.e. Independence Day is July 4)*
- *Your own ideas or original words*

✓ **RELIABLE SOURCES:**
published books & articles; museum & gov't websites

✗ **NOT RELIABLE SOURCES:**
.com websites; blogs; Wikipedia

POSSIBLE THEMES/WORKS OF ART

Chose one theme & two of works of art (listed below the theme) for your paper.

[NGA = National Gallery of Art]

Theme: **The Natural World**

- Fang Congyi, [Cloudy Mountains](#) (ca. 1360-70, Metropolitan Museum of Art)
- Caspar David Friedrich, [Moonrise Over the Sea](#) (1822, Staatliche Museen, Berlin)
- [Katsushika Hokusai, The Great Wave off Kanagawa](#) (from Thirty-Six Views of My. Fuji) (1831, MOA Museum of Art)
- Vincent van Gogh, [The Starry Night](#) (1889, Museum of Modern Art, New York)
- Albert Bierstadt, [Among the Sierra Nevadas](#) (1868, Smithsonian American Art Museum)
- Claude Monet, [Haystacks, Midday](#) (1890, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra)
- Charles Sheeler, [Classic Landscape](#) (1931, NGA, Washington, DC)
- Robert Smithson, [Spiral Jetty](#) (1970, Great Salt Lake, Utah)

Theme: **Struggle**

(Tip: Keep in mind that the word can be used in different ways—i.e. a struggle can be a physical conflict or inner turmoil.

- Artemisia Gentileschi, [Judith and Holofernes](#) (1620-1, Uffizi Gallery)
- George Bellows, [Both Members of this Club](#) (1909, NGA, Washington, DC)
- Dorothea Lange, [Migrant Mother, Nipomo, California](#) (1936)
- Martha Rosler, [Gladiators, 2004](#) from *Bringing the War Home: House Beautiful* (2004, Museum of Contemporary Photography)
- Barbara Kruger, [Untitled \[Your Body is a Battleground\]](#) (1989, Broad Art Foundation)
- Anselm Kieffer, [Let a Thousand Flowers Bloom](#) (2000, Metropolitan Museum of Art)
- Kara Walker, [Exodus of Confederates from Atlanta from Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War \(Annotated\)](#) (2005, Museum of Modern Art, New York)

Theme: **Art & Illusion**

- Sandro Botticelli, [The Annunciation](#) (ca. 1485, Metropolitan Museum of Art)
- Georges Seurat, [A Sunday on La Grande Jatte -1884](#) (1884/6, Art Institute of Chicago)
- John Haberle, [Imitation](#) (1887, NGA, Washington, DC)
- Rene Magritte, [The Blank Signature](#) (1965, NGA, Washington, DC) ([more info!](#))
- Chuck Close, [Fanny/ Fingerpainting](#) (1985, NGA, Washington, DC) ([more info](#))
- Martin Puryear, [Ladder for Booker T. Washington](#) (1996, The Modern, Houston)
- Roy Lichtenstein, [House I](#) (1996/8, NGA, Washington, DC)
- Yayoi Kusama, [Infinity Mirrored Room – Filled with the Brilliance of Life](#) (installation at the Tate Gallery, London [& other locations], 2011-2) ([video](#)) ([more info](#))

Writing Center Assistance

The Writing Center has locations in Cherry Hall 123 and in the Commons at Cravens Library on the Bowling Green campus. The Glasgow Writing Center is located in room 231 on the Glasgow campus. The Writing Center also offers online consultations for students who live at a distance or who cannot visit during our operating hours. Our writing tutors have been trained to provide helpful feedback to students at all phases of a writing project: they can help you brainstorm ideas, structure your essay, clarify your purpose, strengthen your support, and edit for clarity and correctness. But they will not revise or edit the paper for you. See instructions on the website <http://www.bowlinggreen.edu/writingcenter> for more information or for making face-to-face appointments. Or call (606) 338-2222 during our operating hours (also listed on our website) for help scheduling an appointment. More information about the Glasgow Writing Center hours can be found at the website <http://www.bowlinggreen.edu/writingcenter>.

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