

FFAR 291/INTE 398
Art Review

For this assignment, you are asked to **write a 1200 word critical, contextual review** of a cultural production related to HIV/AIDS. In short, your paper should present the work (briefly) and then provide context for the artist's intention and the context in which it was received. Possible subjects include:

Zero Patience

Rent

Fig Trees

Philadelphia

Behind the Candelabra

Kids

Gia

Parting Glances

Angels in America

Longtime Companion

Tongues Untied

Dallas Buyers Club

Boys on the Side

Love! Valour! Compassion!

The Normal Heart

Or a substantial body of work such as:

The work of Keith Haring

The work of General Idea

The work of Félix González-Torres

At least four works produced for PosterVirus

A photo essay with HIV as the primary theme. (a link to the work must be provided with your essay).

Think about your chosen subject using key concepts we considered earlier in the course on the importance of representation and how discourse functions. Some questions that could help you get started are:

- Who is being addressed?
- What ideas, values, beliefs are present/absent?
- Whose voices receive attention?
- Whose interests are served?
- How might audiences be influenced?
- Which stereotypes are perpetuated?
- What norms/values are privileged?

Along with concepts such as identity politics.

However, your reflection should move beyond an artistic review. Discuss the social, political, medical knowledge base of the both the producer and audience of the art at the time it was produced. (Use "A Very American Epidemic Memory Politics and Identity Politic in the AIDS Memorial Quilt, 1985–1993" by Christopher Capozzola as a model for integrating cultural context into a discussion of a cultural product)

You might also want to consider (answer whichever question(s) are relevant to your subject):

How did it reinforce or challenge existing ideas?

Does it reinforce or challenge notions of stigma?

How does its distribution, presentation determine who may have access to it?

Draw on at least three other class readings (not necessarily from the Arts lessons of the course) to help frame your discussion. These texts can speak to the medical/social/legal conditions of the work's context. Use at least two credible (peer-reviewed or expert) works from outside class (reviews, biographies, criticism, etc.) to support your investigation.

Please include a cover page, bibliography and use proper citation style.

HOW TO WRITE AN ESSAY 101

1) Introduction

State the main theme of your essay.
Gesture towards your conclusion.

2) Paragraph Structure

State the main point of your paragraph.
Elaborate.
Quote or cite an example.
Summarize the key point.

4) Conclusion

Repeat the main points that your paper has developed.
Double check your introduction. Is this really what you have done?
If not, rewrite your introduction.

Checklist for Essay Writing

- Have I carried out and included relevant research from a range of sources?
- Have I fully referenced all the sources in the text and at the end?
- Have I typed and double spaced my essay?
- Does the opening of my essay capture attention and outline my approach?
- Are the paragraphs and main points in a logical order?
- Are supporting details convincing and in a logical order?
- Is it possible to tell where one point ends and another begins?
- Have I removed irrelevant information and repetitive words or sentences?
- Is my conclusion strong?
- Have I double checked the spelling and meanings of words?
- Has my essay been proofread?

REFERENCING

A paper is not written from your thoughts alone. You are in conversation with other scholars, researchers and theorists. You can use their arguments to support yours, or take them on in order to assert your point of view. It is extremely important that you always cite their work to:

- 1) Give credit where credit is due.
- 2) Clarify which ideas are yours, and which are adapted/adopted from others.

PARAPHRASING:

Writing another person's ideas in your own words to further elaborate/illustrate your argument. You might also want to paraphrase to summarize an author's main arguments, instead of finding

a particular sentence to quote. When you paraphrase, make sure to understand what the original text is saying, then close the book and write the passage in your own words. Once again, you need to cite a source for a paraphrase even though you did not quote from the source directly.

QUOTING:

Quoting is using another's exact words either to add authority to the concept, theory, or information one is trying to convey or because that author has stated so clearly what one is wishing to say that one could not say it better oneself.

ALL QUOTATIONS AND PARAPHRASES MUST BE REFERENCED.

There are many ways to cite your sources. However, "parenthetical citations" are the easiest. If you write a sentence that contains ideas that have been paraphrased, you must include the author's name, the date of publication, and the page number in brackets at the end of the sentence. For example:

Gender is not necessarily a product of biology. Instead, gender is socially constructed. In other words, gender is something that one learns to do (de Beauvoir, 1952:267).

Parenthetical citations are also used for direct quotes. For example:

"One is not born, but rather becomes, a woman" (de Beauvoir, 1952:267).

If a quote is longer than 3 sentences, you should place it in a block quote in your text. Block quotes are indented and single spaced.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The bibliography is a list of sources used in writing your research paper. It appears at the end of the paper. It is single spaced. However, individual entries should be separated by a space, and arranged alphabetically by the author's last name. The first line of each entry is aligned with the left margin; second and succeeding lines are indented five spaces.

Different sources are cited differently. For example;

Books, single author:

- Nolen, S. (2007). "Why 28?" and "Glossary." EXCERPTS from *28 Stories of AIDS in Africa*. Toronto: Knopf, p. 4-11, p. 379-386.

Article, more than one author:

- Poundstone, K.E., Strathdee, S.A., Celentano, D.D. (2004). "The social epidemiology of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome." *Epidemiological Reviews*, 26, pp. 22-30.

There are specific rules for citing films, newspaper articles, material found online, etc. Be sure to check proper format for each item listed in your bibliography.

What is Plagiarism?

The university in its Academic Code of Conduct defines plagiarism as “The presentation of the work of another person as one’s own or without proper acknowledgement” (Article 16a of the Academic Code of Conduct). It also includes using another person’s words as one’s own without the required use of quotation marks (and referencing).

This includes copying someone else’s work, submitting someone’ else’s work as your own, resubmitting work from another source AND not acknowledging the source of ideas, concepts, arguments used in your own work.

These instructions were adapted from a longer guide sheet put together by:
Candis Steenbergen and Robyn Diner as well as material adapted from Student Learning Services. Concordia University.