

Formal Analysis Paper

Objective: Write a Formal Analysis

What: Three page paper

How: You can pick ANY work on view at the Blanton to analyze

When: Due November 18 at 11:00am (class time)

Formatting Basics:

- ☐ Typed, double spaced, 1-inch margins, 12-point Times New Roman font.
- ☐ **Three entire pages** (not more than 4)
- ☐ Include the image that you are writing about. Make it large enough so I can see it. This does not count towards the length requirement!
- ☐ Proofread, proofread, proofread for grammar, spelling, punctuation, and other errors.
- ☐ **Make sure you have a thesis statement.**
- ☐ Your grade will reflect your ability to follow these guidelines.

Description of Assignment: The goal of a formal analysis is to explain how the formal elements of a work of art affect the representation of the subject matter and expressive content. The emphasis should be on analyzing the formal elements—not interpreting the artwork. That said, an understanding of the meaning of the work is the final goal of any formal analysis. To aid in writing a formal analysis, you should think as if you were describing the work of art to someone who has never seen it before.

Getting Started: It may be helpful to start by looking at the work of art and identifying the visual elements. How are they arranged? Is the work balanced? Is there a focal point? Is there a sense of movement? You might consider why the artist chose to include certain elements and how each element contributes to your response to the work.

It is important to remember that your interest here is strictly formal; **no research is to be used in this paper.** You are strictly relying on your ability to visually ‘read’ a work of art and make interpretations about it based on your analysis of it.

The Thesis Statement: The thesis statement sets the tone for the entire paper and sets it apart from being a merely descriptive paper. Your thesis should provide a framework for your analysis and suggest your interpretation of the work. A thesis statement does not necessarily involve a statement of argument or original insight, but it should let the reader know how the artist’s formal choices affect the viewer.

Example of an effective thesis statement: In *Club Night*, George Bellows uses high contrast, shape, and line to capture the energy of the athletes and provide an evocative and sensational interpretation of the club scene.

The Analysis: Although description is an important part of a formal analysis, description is not enough on its own. You must introduce and contextualize your descriptions of the formal elements of the work so the reader understands how each element influences the work’s overall

How To Start A Formal Analysis Paper

Jesse Day



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Fundamentals of Art History Anne D'Alleva, Michael Cothren, 2021-08-05 This invaluable guide enables students to get the most from their art history course Written in an accessible style the book introduces two basic art historical methods formal analysis and contextual analysis In this new edition revising author Michael Cothren has extended the discussion on iconography and iconology as well as adding discussions on the effects of the market and museums on art Greater emphasis is placed on the global and multicultural aspects of art creation and analysis with new images and more case studies There is more step by step guidance on how to use these methods to prepare for exams and write papers

The Art of Critical Making Rosanne Somerson, Mara Hermano, 2013-09-23 Describes the world's leading approach to art and design taught at Rhode Island School of Design At Rhode Island School of Design students are immersed in a culture where making questions ideas and objects using and inventing materials and activating experience all serve to define a form of critical thinking albeit with one's hands i.e. critical making The Art of Critical Making by RISD faculty and staff describes fundamental aspects of RISD's approach to critical making and how this can lead to innovation The process of making taught at RISD is deeply introspective passionate and often provocative This book illuminates how RISD nurtures the creative process from brief or prompt to outcome along with guidance on the critical questions and research that enable making great works of art and design Explores the conceptual process idea research critical questions and iteration that RISD faculty employ to educate students to generate thoughtful work Authors are from the faculty and staff of the Rhode Island School of Design which consistently ranks as the number one fine arts and design college in the United States The Art of Critical Making shows you how context materials thought processes and self evaluation are applied in this educational environment to prepare creative individuals to produce dynamic memorable and meaningful works

Elements of Biblical Exegesis Michael J. Gorman, 2008-10-01 In this revised and expanded edition of *Elements of Biblical Exegesis A Basic Guide for Students and Ministers* Michael J Gorman presents a straightforward approach to the complex task of biblical exegesis Designed for students teachers and ministers this hands on guide breaks the task down into seven distinct elements For each of these Gorman supplies a clear explanation practical

hints and suggested exercises to help the reader develop exegetical proficiency The new edition addresses more fully the meaning of theological interpretation and provides updated print and internet resources for those who want to pursue further study in any aspect of exegesis Appendixes offer three sample exegesis papers and practical guidelines for writing a research exegesis paper The Essentials of Effective Written Communication for Young Researchers and Tertiary Students Laura Cheng Sue Sen B.comn,2022-05-16 The scientific article must be written in a scientific format and may seem confusing for tertiary students and young researchers especially for the beginning science writer due to its rigid structure which is so different from writing humanities One of the reasons for using this format is that it is a means of efficiently communicating scientific findings to a broad community of scientists in a uniform manner Writing a technical article or research paper is a challenging endeavour for students and young researchers Publishing your first technical article or research paper requires observation of some essential guidelines Hence the purpose of this book is to provide basic guidelines to tertiary students and young researchers using this user friendly format to help in writing a scientific article This book focuses on the essential steps for the publication of a technical article and research paper for tertiary students and young researchers **Line Color Form** Jesse Day,2013-04 The only guide of its kind Line Color Form offers a thorough introduction to design theory and terminology in a visually appealing and accessible format With hundreds of illustrations and minimal text this primer was created with visual learners in mind making it ideal for art students as well as those for whom English is a second language Each chapter focuses on a single aspect of visual composition such as line color or material After an illustrated discussion of fundamental vocabulary the chapters move on to applications of the concepts through images including photographs color wheels significant works of art and other visual aids Each image is accompanied by a descriptive paragraph offering an example of how the vocabulary can be applied in visual analysis The book culminates with a section on formal analysis aimed at teaching readers how to express their observations in formal writing and critical discourse Whether you are a design educator student or professional native or non native English speaker this reference is a must Strategy as Practice Gerry Johnson,Ann Langley,Leif Melin,Richard Whittington,2007-08-02 Research in strategy has shifted significantly towards strategy as something organizations have rather than strategy as something that managers do The activities of the people who actually manage and develop organizational strategy have become marginalized Strategy as Practice argues the reverse that research on strategy needs to take seriously what strategists do and the effects of what they do Written by a distinguished team of researchers and educators this book sets out a research agenda provides guidelines on theoretical perspectives and alternative methodologies for research on practice as well as commentaries on published illustrative papers that exemplify the practice perspective Strategy as Practice will be essential reading for doctoral students researchers and academics who wish to understand or undertake research in this important field of management research **Pushing The Frontiers Of Nutritional Life Cycle Assessment (nLCA) To Identify Globally Equitable And Sustainable Agri-Food**

Systems Ty Beal, Graham A. McAuliffe, Jolieke Van Der Pols, Michael Lee, 2024-09-09 Formal Methods for Open Object-Based Distributed Systems Marcello M. Bonsangue, Einar Broch Johnsen, 2007-06-27 This book constitutes the refereed proceedings of the 9th IFIP WG 6.1 International Conference on Formal Methods for Open Object Based Distributed Systems FMOODS 2007 held in Paphos Cyprus June 2007. The 17 revised full papers presented together with two invited papers cover model checking, rewriting logic, components and services, algebraic calculi, specification, verification and refinement and quality of service.

Carbonate Reservoirs: Applying Current Knowledge to Future Energy Needs J. Garland, A.J. Barnett, T.P. Burchette, V.P. Wright, 2025-05-07 More than a century of exploitation of carbonate petroleum reservoirs has placed the geoscience subsurface community in a strong position to supply a wealth of knowledge and technology to our future energy needs. This Special Publication presents the latest research from carbonate oil and gas fields and demonstrates how the skills and workflows learnt in this industry can be directly applied to geothermal and radioactive waste disposal evaluations in carbonate successions. A common theme running through the volume is the importance of recognizing high permeability zones which can have an enormous impact on producibility, whether in oil gas or geothermal reservoirs. As we transition to alternative energy sources, this Special Publication looks back on the positive contributions of the oil and gas industry to our scientific knowledge and understanding and discusses the ways in which carbonate and associated evaporite successions will play a critical role in our future energy needs.

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