

Research Assignment

Each of you will be assigned a Roman emperor. This figure will provide you with your historic context. You will then need to select a minimum of five monuments from the period of his reign around which you will craft a thesis and essay paying close attention to the emperor for whom and during whose reign the monuments were created. How did the reign of your emperor impact artistic production? Are there any significant trends that need to be addressed? You will need to make careful choices that support the thesis that you craft. There are a few general ground rules with regard to monument selection.

1. one monument must be a portrait of your emperor (in any medium)
2. one monument must be an architectural commission made by your emperor (eg. a villa, palace, temple)
3. one monument must be a non-imperial commission (eg. something domestic, a portable art?)

Be creative in your selections. The end result should illustrate your emperor's place in history through the monuments that he commissioned, monuments commissioned on his behalf and monuments that demonstrate the general condition of the empire under his rule. This does not mean, however, that you should fit monuments into a biography of your emperor. As with all art historical essays, the monuments are your starting point and it is around the monuments that your thesis and essay should be crafted. Your choices should be selections, not just the first monument that satisfies the assignment. Be sure to consult the primary sources that mention your emperor.

You will prepare a 6-8 page, typed, double-spaced, illustrated and fully documented paper. Do not write in the first person. Please proofread your text carefully. For guidance on writing a research paper you should consult the Style Sheet that I have prepared for this course. You will find information on common grammatical and stylistic errors as well as formatting information for citations and bibliography. We will go over proper method for image inclusion in class.

Schedule

- 9/13 meet at MAAG library for instruction on the research process  
 9/22 a preliminary bibliography is due in class  
 10/13 an annotated bibliography is due in class  
 11/3 outline of final paper due in class  
 11/29 completed paper due in class (Papers will be downgraded by half a grade for each day late.)

Breakdown

The project is worth 30% of your final grade. Following is a breakdown of the various elements leading up to and including the final product.

preliminary bibliography	2%
annotated bibliography	5%
outline	5%
completed paper	18%

Although most of you will be working on different monuments you may be using some of the same library resources. For this reason I have put some material on reserve. Please be considerate of your classmates in sharing those materials that are not on reserve.

**DO NOT PUT YOUR PAPER IN A FANCY BINDER OR FOLDER. A STAPLE OR PAPERCLIP IN THE UPPER LEFT HAND CORNER IS SUFFICIENT.**