

Final Paper on the Thing (or Image)
Christianity, Art & Materiality
Fall 2022

There are many steps *en route* to the final paper. More details about all of these assignments are available on the assignment sheets on Canvas.

1. **Thing description.** Your one-hour Thing or Image description (5% of final grade) and a corresponding JPEG or TIFF is due to Canvas by **Thursday, October 13 at 11:59 PM** (note new due date due to Hurricane). On **Monday, October 17**, I will ask you to describe your chosen Thing or Image for about three minutes at the beginning of class.
2. **Article response.** An 800-word article response (10% of final grade) will be due to Canvas on **Thursday, October 20, at 11:59 PM**. The assignment is to find a peer-reviewed scholarly research article related to your research topic, using FSU's library resources, and give a summary and critique. The session with Adam Beauchamp will help you select your article.
3. **Annotated bibliography.** An annotated bibliography of sources for your final paper (10% of the final grade) with ten items (scholarly articles and/or books) is due **Thursday, November 3 at 11:59 PM**. You need at least ten items for the bibliography, and three of these ought to be readings from our class (e.g. Orsi, Freedberg, McDannell, etc.) You may want to make an appointment with Adam Beauchamp to find more relevant sources.
4. **Presentation.** Presentations on your nearly-complete projects (10% of final grade) will take place in class on **November 28 and November 30**. Plan to talk for about 12 minutes and leave 8 minutes for class discussion. You will be graded on not only your presentation, but also on how you engage the work of your classmates.

November 28: Miya, Chelsea, Graham
November 30: Trumon, Zane, Joshua
5. **Final paper.** The final Thing paper (20% of final grade) is due to Canvas by **11:59 PM on Friday, December 9**. Papers should be about eight pages.

This is an interpretative research paper. The goal is to discuss the role of your Thing or Image in a religious culture, in a way that (1) makes an argument and backs it up with evidence; (2) incorporates secondary literature to bolster your analysis, and (3) uses the tools/terms you have learned in our class, e.g. real presence, sacramentals, "the fetish," semiotics, kitsch, et al. Don't be afraid to make a strong, arguable claim! Make sure you support claims with evidence and logical thought. Use your preferred citation system. I like the Chicago Manual of Style's "Notes and Bibliography" format for your citations and bibliography: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html

If you have any questions or want to discuss sources or ideas, be sure to communicate with me well in advance of the due dates.