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Assignment: Report on the Historical and Cultural Context of Your Chosen Artwork

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Information Literacy Grant Application Spring 2010
Revised assignment
ARTH 1310 Introduction to Asian Art: China
Jinli He

ASSIGNMENT: REPORT ON THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT OF YOUR CHOSEN ARTWORK

During SAMA visit on March 3rd, you will be asked to choose one ceramic piece that you wish to study.

Once you identify the piece you will focus on, you must familiarize yourself with its historical, societal and cultural context. Following a session with Bea Caraway, the librarian for this course, you will identify three appropriate general background resources and at least one reliable resource that discusses the artwork in its historical, cultural, or society context. These resources can either provided by Coates Library or found on your own. After you have identified these sources, you will have a research appointment with Ms. Caraway to discuss your sources and have them approved for your project. Be prepared to describe why you chose these sources and what you believe their value will be for your analysis.

Scholars learn from and build on each other's efforts, and they give credit where it is due. Dr. He will offer several examples of how to eloquently indicate in an oral report what one has learned from other scholars. As you prepare your own presentation, consider how you will give credit to your sources as you speak. You will make reference to at least three experts from your approved resources.

On the day of your presentation, you will also turn in an evaluative annotated bibliography of at least four sources (three background sources and at least one on the artwork itself).

Presentation Guidelines:

Length -- 10 minutes.

Language – Clear and simple.

Delivery – Do not read your presentation. You may want to use note cards to prompt your memory.

PowerPoint – Use your PPT presentation to illustrate or complement your talk, not to duplicate it. You must post your PPT presentation to me.

Outline – Bring to class a one-page outline of your presentation, copies for all students.

Citation style -- MLA.

Elements to include –

Description of the artwork

- Media
- Artist
- Period
- Place
- Style

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- Relative standing
- Etc.

Description of the salient aspects of the period

- Political
- Societal
- Cultural
 - Art
 - Music
 - Literature
 - Dance
 - Etc.

Commentary on how the context influenced the artwork

Reminder: You are bound by the Honor Code, so you must not represent others' words or ideas as your own.

Annotated Bibliography Guidelines:

Number of entries: 3 background sources, at least one source that discusses the artwork itself in relation to its context.

Annotation: For each resource, indicate

- how you know it was authoritative and reliable
- what value it had for your project
- how it relates or compares to other sources you considered using

Length of each annotation: As long as you need, but at least 10 lines each.

Consult "Creating an Annotated Bibliography" (<http://lib.trinity.edu/lib2/cite.php>) before you begin this part of the assignment.