**INTRODUCTION TO ART HISTORICAL RESEARCH**

**“THE BIBLIOGRAPHY PROJECT”**

**STAGE THREE**

For stage 3, you will write a bibliography of scholarly journal articles. Read carefully!

1. What are you looking for?
   1. Articles that offer interpretation or critique or history of an artist’s work. This requires involved research on the part of the author so such an article will not be brief. Look for articles that are five pages or more.
   2. Journals are periodicals devoted to a specific discipline or field. Newspapers and popular magazines are not scholarly journals.
   3. Scholarly means that the author is an expert with an advanced degree who bases his/her conclusions on original research and interpretation.
2. What are you NOT looking for?
   1. Exhibition reviews—Watch out! There are LOTS of these!
   2. Book and film reviews
   3. Auction notices
   4. Brief notes (1—3 pages)
   5. Newspapers
   6. Popular Magazines—*Time*, *Rolling Stone*, *Better Homes and Gardens*
   7. More serious popular magazines—*Smithsonian*, *National Geographic*
   8. Reproductions that are being used to illustrate a scholarly article
3. What can you use? Here are some examples.

*The Art Bulletin*, *Art Journal*, *Art Quarterly*, *The Burlington Magazine*, *Apollo*, *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*, *October*, *Art History*, museum journals like *J. Paul Getty Museum Journal, Renaissance Studies, Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Metropolitan Museum of Art Bulletin*

1. Are there any complications? Yes. Unfortunately, art is more complicated than some other fields. There are many art magazines that include some scholarly articles. Examples include *Art in America*, *Art News*, *Artforum*. Use your judgment: How long is the article? Is it a review or an article? How specific is the title?
2. What are some clues that a citation is a scholarly article?
   1. The title is specific and narrow. “Hats Off to Impressionism,” “Untitled,” “Edgar Degas” are not scholarly titles. Examples of scholarly titles would be: “Touch and Vision in Edgar Degas’ Darkfield Monotypes,” “The ‘Philistine’ and the New Art Critic: A New Perspective on the Debate about Degas's *L'Absinthe* of 1893,” and “‘Pictures Properly Framed’: Degas and Innovation in Impressionist Frames.”
   2. The article is long—sometimes very long.
   3. The article has citations: bibliography and/or footnores/endnotes.
   4. It appears in a scholarly journal.
3. How do you go about finding these articles?
   1. You do not use Proquest and other search engines meant for the general public and K—12 students.
   2. You do not use JSTOR and other broad scholarly databases. Why not? Because these cover a wide range of subjects, there are not many articles on any one topic. You will not find sufficient material, and you will not be able to complete the assignment.
   3. You **MUST SEARCH** using the **ART INDEX**. This is the most comprehensive index of journals in the field of art history. It includes journals from all over the world.
4. Is the Art Index easy to use? **NO!!!**
   1. The Art Index is **tricky** to use. **LISTEN CAREFULLY IN CLASS!!!**
   2. You must begin by going to the top line of the web page and clicking on “Choose Databases.” When the window opens, choose either Art Index (about 1980 to the present) or Art Index Retrospective (about 1920 to 1980). Do not try to use the two simultaneously or you will not get good results. After you have limited your search to just one database, then you will get more choices of fields so that you can narrow your search.
   3. There are lots of exhibition reviews, reproductions, articles in foreign languages, etc. that will not be useful to you. You need to learn to weed these out.
   4. Searching requires **TIME AND PATIENCE**. Be prepared for this to take some time to do correctly.

ASSIGNMENT:

1. Using the Art Index database, find 4 articles published since 1985 that relate to your artwork or your artist.

Note that these must relate in some way to your object. For example, if your painting is a Cubist work by Picasso, then you cannot use an article on Picasso and Surrealism. However, the articles do not have to be specifically on your artwork. An article on van Gogh’s paintings of olive trees and cypresses would be useful for research on *Starry Night* since that painting includes cypresses.

1. Find 2 articles on the styles, movements, or timeframes of your object.

The articles can either treat the artist’s work or the general period in which the artist worked. For example, if you were doing Botticelli, you could include an article on “The Influence of Neo-Platonic Philosophy on Early Renaissance Painting” or “The Female Nude in Florentine Painting.”

3. Find 3 articles published before 1980 that relate to your subject. At least one must be on the style, movement, timeframe, or nation.

As before, you should list under the citation

--the Library of Congress number for the journal; or the information for an e-journal; or ILL

--the source that you used to find the citation.

DUE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_