WML Information Literacy Instruction Assessment 2020-21
Classroom Activity Report – Individual

Faculty Librarian: Donna Witek

Semester: Fall 2020

Course Number and Name: ARTH 111X: Art, Time, and Place (EP)

Course Instructor (Last Name): Dunn

Date(s) of Information Literacy Instruction: 10/19/2020

Time(s) of Information Literacy Instruction: 3:00-4:15pm

Location: Zoom

Number of Students Registered in Course: 16

Summary of research assignment or task

In this course, students are tasked in Essay 5: Saints and Symbols with selecting three saints with whom they are unfamiliar and curating works of art that depict the saints through the online collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. They then need to conduct research about the saints' lives and about artistic imagery and symbolism associated with their saints, and write 2-3 researched paragraphs of text as a label that accompanies each work of art; these are then compiled into their Essay 5 submissions.

To support this course and assignment during the remote environment caused by the pandemic, I needed to adapt the usual approach to this research that relies on print resources into an online-only approach to secondary research on saints in Italian Renaissance art. To do this, in collaboration with Dr. Dunn I created a linked recommended resources document with search strategies for each tool or resource (attached).

The types of resources and tools addressed include: Electronic Books available through the Library, Electronic Books Available through the Internet Archive (students need to create a free account to borrow books for one hour loan periods), and Library Databases for Art History Journals (JSTOR and ATLA).

Classroom Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) – at least one, no more than three

SLO 1: As a result of this information literacy instruction, students will be introduced to Library resources (electronic books and databases) that are available remotely in which they can research information about their chosen saints for this project.

SLO 2: As a result of this information literacy instruction, students will practice using the Internet Archive search tool to access and read secondary sources about their chosen saints for this project.

SLO 3: As a result of this information literacy instruction, students will understand research as a process of inquiry through which their knowledge of their chosen saint deepens and expands as they seek more and different sources about their topic.

How will you know how students are doing as they work toward meeting these outcomes?

SLOs 1 and 2 are observable during my information literacy instruction with the students, though conducting the class over Zoom makes this more of a challenge.

SLO 3 is difficult to assess without a reflection component to the assignment sequence.

Based on your experience teaching this class and any assessment of student work you were able to do, what can you change next time to improve how you teach it? Or, what was successful that you want to be sure to do again the next time you teach it?

This was my first time teaching this prep, and given the complexities of adapting the research methods for the assignment into an online-only approach, I judged the instruction met its objectives. My presentation is usually preceded by a class session in which Dr. Dunn teaches the students to use the Metropolitan Museum of Art website to find paintings/artwork of their saints to research for the project; however, due to pandemic related tech glitches, she was unable to do this in Fall 2020 so our presentations were in reverse order. Collaboration with Dr. Dunn before and during the instruction was key to its success.

Notes I took after the instruction to remember if I teach this prep again include pointing out and modeling use of the Disciplines filter in JSTOR; I unfortunately ran out of time prior to sharing it this time around. I did not have the time as well to prompt students to take the First-Year Library Instruction feedback assessment survey, which would have provided more feedback directly from the students as to the value of the time spent with me. It is possible that thinning the content I aim to cover would allow more time for some of these missed opportunities.

And finally, closing the loop with the course instructor at the end of the semester to find out how students performed on their Essay 5 submissions would provide more evidence of the impact of my instruction and resource curation for this course; this is something I can plan to do should I teach this prep again in the future.

Information Literacy Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) – at least one, no more than four – this information literacy instruction supports

PLO3: Students will identify the appropriate level of scholarship among publication types (scholarly journals, trade publications, magazines, websites, etc.) in order to critically evaluate the usefulness of the information for their research need.

PLO4: Students will articulate the key elements in their research questions in order to develop and execute a search strategy.

PLO5: Students will share ideas responsibly in a variety of formats and contexts in order to recognize themselves as knowledge creators.

Approved Resources for Research — ARTH 111X, Essay 5: Saints and Symbols

Electronic Books available through the Library

➔ *These titles are full-text accessible through the Library after logging into **my.scranton.edu**.*

Oxford Dictionary of Christian Art and Architecture, 2nd Edition. Edited by Tom Devonshire Jones, Linda Murray, and Peter Murray. Oxford University Press, 2013. Oxford Reference Online Premium.

- ❖ Use the search box labeled "Search within work" to search for your saint or for symbols, events, or themes associated with your saint.

Voragine, Jacobus de. **The Golden Legend: Readings on the Saints**. Translated by William Granger Ryan. Princeton University Press, 2012. JSTOR.

- ❖ Look in the PDF of the Table of Contents to find your saint, then locate the PDF excerpt for your saint in the list of chapters.
- ❖ You can also search for your saint using the Search JSTOR search box and selecting "In This Book".

Electronic Books available through the Internet Archive

➔ *To access and use these titles you will need to create a free login at the **Internet Archive**, after which you can borrow books for a 1-hour loan period.*

Ferguson, George W. **Signs and Symbols in Christian Art**. Oxford University Press, 1959. Internet Archive.

- ❖ Use the Table of Contents and Index to find mentions of your saint or of symbols, events, or themes associated with your saint
- ❖ Especially, Ch. 10 ("The Saints") as well as other chapters whose titles include mention of your saint.
- ❖ Also try searching the text for mention of your saint.

Schiller, Gertrud. **Iconography of Christian Art, Volume 1: Christ's Incarnation, Childhood, Baptism, Temptation, Transfiguration, Works and Miracles**. Translated by Janet Seligman. New York Graphic Society, 1971. Internet Archive.

- ❖ Saints associated with Christ's life only are included in the two-volume set by Schiller, but this comprises many familiar saints (apostles, Christ's family, Dismas the Good thief, etc.).
- ❖ Use the Table of Contents and Index of sacred and scriptural texts to find mentions of your saint or of scriptural citations associated with your saint.
- ❖ Also try searching the text for mention of your saint.

Schiller, Gertrud. **Iconography of Christian Art, Volume 2: The Passion of Jesus Christ**. Translated by Janet Seligman. New York Graphic Society, 1972. Internet Archive.

- Saints associated with Christ's life only are included in the two-volume set by Schiller, but this comprises many familiar saints (apostles, Christ's family, Dismas the Good thief, etc.).
- Use the Table of Contents and Index, both the thematic index and the index of sacred and scriptural texts, to find mentions of your saint or of symbols, events, themes, or scriptural citations associated with your saint.
- Also try searching the text for mention of your saint.

Mâle, Émile. **Religious Art in France: XIII Century: A Study in Mediaeval Iconography and its Sources of Inspiration**. Translated by Dora Nussey. J.M. Dent & Sons LTD, 1913. Internet Archive.

- Author Mâle, though focusing on the subject of religious art in France, provides rich iconographical data on numerous saints. This data is directly applicable to later depictions of saints during the Renaissance.
- Especially, Ch. 3 ("Apocryphal Art") and Ch. 4 ("The Saints and the 'Golden Legend'")
- Use the Table of Contents and Index to find mentions of your saint or of symbols or events associated with your saint.
- Also try searching the text for mention of your saint.

Mâle, Émile. **Religious Art from the Twelfth to the Eighteenth Century**. Noonday Press, 1968. Internet Archive.

- Author Mâle, though focusing on the subject of religious art in France, provides rich iconographical data on numerous saints. This data is directly applicable to later depictions of saints during the Renaissance.
- Especially, "The Mirror of History," pp. 73-93: "Apocrypha," "Saints and the Golden Legend," and "The Aspects of the Saints"
- Use the Table of Contents and Index to find mentions of your saint or of symbols or events associated with your saint.
- Also try searching the text for mention of your saint.

Calamari, Barbara, and Sandra DiPasqua. **Saints: Ancient & Modern**. Viking Studio, 2007. Internet Archive.

- The "Table of Contents" cites the saints under discussion. Not all saints are included; it is a restrictive list. Some of the class, however, may find the saint for which they are looking.
- The Index may also be worth consulting for mention of your saint or of symbols, events, and themes associated with your saint.
- Also try searching the text for mention of your saint.

Library Databases for Art History Journals

- ➔ *These databases require you to log into **my.scranton.edu** and provide the ability to search in Art History journals.*
- ➔ *They provide full-text access to a multitude of Art History journals, while those that are not available full-text can be requested through InterLibrary Loan at no cost to you.*

JSTOR — JSTOR is an interdisciplinary database that focuses especially on the humanities disciplines, including Art History, and enables you to search across many journals in the discipline of Art History and related fields. You can use this tool to find journal articles and book chapters that provide information about your saint; about symbols, events, and themes associated with your saint; or, about the name of the paintings or artists you are researching for your project.

ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials Plus — ATLA is a database in the disciplines of Theology and Religious Studies, and includes publications, both scholarly and pastoral, in the field of Catholic Studies. You can check this tool for information about your saint, or about symbols, events, and themes associated with your saint.