Art History DMP Guidelines (updated 2023)

The Department's Distinguished Majors Program (DMP) is an opportunity for qualified undergraduates to undertake substantial, independent research projects while working closely with department faculty. Participants are prepared for advanced independent research and analysis by a required seminar in art historical theory, methods, and historiography. The program culminates in the submission of a DMP capstone project, a significant piece of original research, such as a text with a length of about fifty pages, a digital humanities project, an exhibition project, etc. Students who successfully complete the program receive departmental honors, with a degree of Distinction, High Distinction, or Highest Distinction in art history.

1. Guidelines for DMP Thesis

A DMP thesis is a significant piece of original research, such as a text with a length of about fifty pages.

Formatting

The project, including footnotes/endnotes, bibliography, and illustrations, should be formatted using 12-pt font, 1-inch margins, and page numbers inserted in the lower right-hand corners.

Thesis Organization

Table of Contents
Acknowledgements
List of Illustrations
Introduction
Chapters
Bibliography/Works Cited
Tables/Appendix (if needed) Illustrations (if needed)

Citation Style

Unless otherwise specified by their DMP advisor, students should use the Chicago Manual of Style to format all references and bibliography. The Manual is available online and at all University libraries.

List of Illustrations

This should include, in order of appearance within your text, all pertinent information regarding the image: artist, title, date, type of media, size, and location when applicable.

Project Submission

Projects, fully polished and proofread, with all illustrations included, should be uploaded as a single pdf to a Box folder indicated by the DMP coordinator by the end of the day of the third Friday in April.

2. Guidelines for DMP Exhibition Project (Tentative/Drafted March, 2024)

A DMP exhibition project is a significant piece of original research, which includes an exhibition proposal of about 5 pages, one extended catalogue essay about 30 pages, a checklist, exhibition labels, and installation outline. Students will have the option of curating the exhibition digitally or in a physical space.

Exhibition Project Organization

Exhibition Proposal (5 pages)

This should include a project description; description of exhibition space and installation design; budget; proposed loans, bibliography.

Catalogue Essay (30 pages)

This should include one catalogue essay, which supports the exhibition hypothesis.

Exhibition Checklist

This should include all pertinent information regarding the selected objects: artist, title, date, type of media, size, and location when applicable.

Exhibition Labels

This should include any text that would appear on wall labels.

Installation outline/map

Unless otherwise stated by the student, the exhibition proposal should use the spaces at the Fralin Museum.

Formatting

The project, including footnotes/endnotes, bibliography, and illustrations, should be formatted using 12-pt font, 1-inch margins, and page numbers inserted in the lower right-hand corners.

Citation Style

Unless otherwise specified by their DMP advisor, students should use the Chicago Manual of Style to format all references and bibliography. The Manual is available online and at all University libraries.

Project Submission

Projects, fully polished and proofread, with all illustrations included, should be uploaded as a single pdf to a Box folder indicated by the DMP coordinator by the end of the day of the third Friday in April.

3. Guidelines for DMP Digital Humanities Project (Tentative/Drafted March, 2024)

A DMP Digital Humanites (DH) project is a significant piece of original research, which includes a project description of about 10 pages and a digital platform (website and/or database).

Digital Humanities Project

Project Description (10 pages)

This should include a project description; analysis of chosen platform, digital technologies and program language; analysis of layout and Web design; analysis of audience/outreach and maintenance/sustainability; key take aways and conclusions; bibliography.

Online Platform

The chosen platform should include an introduction, texts, images and a bibliography.

Formatting

The project, including footnotes/endnotes, bibliography, and illustrations, should be formatted using 12-pt font, 1-inch margins, and page numbers inserted in the lower right-hand corners.

Citation Style

Unless otherwise specified by their DMP advisor, students should use the Chicago Manual of Style to format all references and bibliography. The Manual is available online and at all University libraries.

Project Submission

Projects' web link or app, fully polished and proofread, with all illustrations included, should be sent via email to the DMP coordinator by the end of the day of the third Friday in April.