

## Comparative Study

### Task summary

The comparative study is an externally examined assessment task worth 20%.

To complete the task, you are required to present a comparative study of at least three artworks by at least two different artists from different and contrasting cultural contexts. The work should be selected from work you have investigated as a part of your independent coursework, and will be explored further and presented as a series of screen-based slides.

### Formal requirements

#### SL

- SL students submit 10–15 screens, which examine and compare at least three artworks, objects or artifacts, at least two of which need to be by different artists.
- The works selected for comparison and analysis should come from differing cultural contexts.
- SL students submit a list of sources used.

#### HL

- HL students submit 10–15 screens, which examine and compare at least three artworks, objects or artifacts, at least two of which need to be by different artists.
- The works selected for comparison and analysis should come from differing cultural contexts.
- HL students submit 3–5 screens, which analyse the extent to which their work and practices have been influenced by the art and artists examined.
- HL students submit a list of sources used.

Each IB student will have three official meetings with MrL about the Comparative Study. You can certainly meet with him informally to ask questions all you like, up until the third official meeting.

1. **Meeting one: Proposal** – you will need to turn into Google Classroom a proposal of the pieces of art you will compare. This can be in outline form, paragraph form or you can use some kind of visual organizer. I would highly recommend the template I have provided for you on the website. This proposal does not need to include any sources. It just needs to give MrL a rough idea of what you will be exploring. Keep in mind if you might be doing HL for this class, you will have to create photos or art that relate and are inspired by the works you choose for the comparative study. So if this might be the plan, think about having to emulate these artists and your ability and tools available to do this successfully. These works you do would be due your senior year.
2. **Meeting two: Outline** – you should have a well-developed outline for your study. You must have a list of sources in MLA format. This list does not need to be your final one. This will also be turned into Google Classroom. If you are missing your list of sources upon the due date, MrL will not even look at the outline and it will receive a zero and will only get late credit once complete.
3. **Meeting three: First draft** – you must have your slides (screens as IB calls them) complete and uploaded to Google Classroom. You will also need your complete list of sources. There will be a separate place on Google Classroom to submit the works cited page. After this, I am not allowed to give you any more input, so if your draft is not complete, I will not be able to give you a full analysis of your study and you will be left on your own to figure it out.

MrL takes notes on each meeting and he must document your progress, or lack thereof, and what your ideas are and also his thoughts and suggestions in regards to your study.

Be sure to look at lots of example comparative studies available on the NPHS Photography website and the IB website.

This should take many hours to research and write. This is not as extensive as an Extended Essay, but it is not far off from that task. You are coming up with your own thesis and you will need to extensively research your topic and present it in an engaging and well organized way. Be sure to use words from the **Visual Arts Glossary**.

***It is vitally important that you have a separate document with your works cited (in MLA format) and that you use parenthetical citations throughout your slides!!!! I cannot emphasize this enough.*** When you look at some of the sample Comparative Studies, you will see a works cited page of sources, but no parenthetical citations within the study itself. This is not how IB wants it. If you do not have parenthetical citations and/or a list of sources, MrL will not look at your study until it is completed and you will receive a zero for a grade until it is completed and then only late credit once done.

The art works you choose can have something to do with the work you currently create or nothing at all to do with it. This is not assessed alongside your other two components and can be completely unrelated.

Once we have met three times you will need to revise your draft as needed and have it ready to submit to IB for assessment.