

MOMA Field Trip 10.30.17

ToK Assignment

Your first assignment is to enjoy yourself and soak in the art in this amazing museum.

Second, I would like to be thinking about how the works in this museum, individually, by collection or collectively might be useful as examples to illustrate arguments made in either the prescribed essay topic we are all writing together (6) or the topic(s) you are thinking of writing on in the spring. Here are the topics for easy reference:

1. "The fields of study of academic disciplines can overlap, but adopting interdisciplinary approaches to the production of knowledge leads only to confusion." Discuss this claim.
2. "We know with confidence only when we know little; with knowledge doubt increases" (adapted from JW von Goethe). Discuss this statement with reference to two areas of knowledge.
3. "Without the assumption of the existence of uniformities there can be no knowledge." Discuss this claim with reference to two areas of knowledge.
4. "Suspension of disbelief" is an essential feature of theatre. Is it essential in other areas of knowledge? Develop your answer with reference to two areas of knowledge.
5. "The quality of knowledge produced by an academic discipline is directly proportional to the duration of historical development of that discipline." Explore this claim with reference to two disciplines.
6. "Robust knowledge requires both consensus and disagreement." Discuss this claim with reference to two areas of knowledge.

Here is the assignment:

1. Form groups from 4-7 with which you will tour the museum, eat lunch and present (parts 5-6)
2. Be prepared tomorrow to complete a non moderated discussion on the following topic, "How do the works in the MoMA (individually or collectively) create knowledge? How is this knowledge distinct from and similar to the knowledge generated by the other AoKs? (Identify issues you would like to raise and works that demonstrate your observations and/or questions)
3. Identify and photograph **three works** (or groups or collections of works) and any interpretive material (descriptions, artist, dates etc.) that you believe relate to one or more of the above PTs. (Do this in the museum)
4. For each of the **three works** or group of works complete 50-100 word annotation explaining how the work helps you to explore the knowledge question(s) stated and implied by the topic of your choice. Please feel free to use the interpretive material provided by the museum to help you with this. Annotations should focus on how the work illustrates the questions raised in the prescribed topic (Due - Thursday, November 2)
5. For **one** of the annotations in another 50-100 words, explain how the work relates to either the Picasso or Tolstoy documents. Together, 4 and 5 count as two annotations. (Due - Thursday, November 2)
6. With your group, choose one of the works that intrigued you all and prepare a presentation the includes a slide sized reproduction of your work and an explanation of both the work, its background and how the work connects to the prescribed topic(s) and writing(s) of your choice. The only slide should be the work itself. All discussion, analysis and reflection should be done by the group orally. Presentations must be 3-4 minutes in length. (Due - Tuesday, November 7)

Trip resources:

[MoMA website](#)

[MoMA Map \(PDF\)](#)

[Metreon Restaurant list](#)

[Map of the Yerba Buena Gardens area](#)

Times - Please be punctual!

Leave Tracy High - 7:30

Arrive at Museum - 10:30

Tour museum in small groups - 11:00-1:00

Lunch in the museum or at the Metreon - 1:00-2:00

Meet back at the main entrance to the museum at 2:10 - Be on time!

Return home to Tracy - 4:00 - 4:30 PM

Reminder

Please remember that while you are here you represent yourself, our class and Tracy High school in all that you say or do. Remember that all school rules apply. Please remain in your group while in the museum and in groups of no fewer than 3 at lunch. At no time should anyone be alone outside the museum - stay with your group! Please feel free to call or text me if there are any problems. I will give you my number on the bus.