

Art of Horticulture, Hort 2010 Fall 2009

Reflective Journals and Writing Responses

Your responses to readings, and journals written related to “prompts” offered in the syllabus, should include reflective analysis of your perspective, not merely a descriptive listing of events, as in a diary.

Your writing should reflect your evolving experience in the class, as well as your views of beauty and aesthetics; self-expression and discovery; human well-being, and our relationship with nature as expressed in the garden. It will also reflect your opinions, thoughts and feelings about writings assigned for reading.

Journals can include/focus on:

- Issues/concepts of art and horticulture as you perceive them; personal opinion and experience; or statements of belief – “I believe that this garden is beautiful and provides a sense of respite because....”
- How your thinking, opinions, and beliefs about art and horticulture are changing/may change through experience, as well as what factors are influencing those changes.
- What have you come to understand about art and horticulture, and how did you come to know it?
- Problems, areas of ambiguity, and how you resolve problem(s).
- Observations about artists, art works, art techniques, gardeners, gardens, landscapes, etc.,what you admire, what you dislike.
- Something you are learning, discovering, uncovering, and how you are learning it as an on-going process; what factors contributed to your successful learning?
Unsuccessful learning?

Criteria for grading journals:

- Reflective – not just descriptive!
- Submitted once each week in a timely manner, a page in length, at the least, with a developed idea (consistently late journals will impact your grade, see the syllabus for due dates).
- Evidence of analytical, thoughtful weighing of art and horticulture concepts & their meanings.
- Evidence what you are learning, how you are learning it, from this course experience.

Sending your journals:

- Please **paste** your writing response or journal into the body of an email to ME14@cornell.edu (no attachments).
- **In the subject line**, print the number (week one, week two, etc.).