PAPER TOPIC/CORRECTLY FORMATTED THESIS STATEMENT AND BIBLIOGRAPHY: OCT 29
FINAL DUE: DEC 3
BOTH SHOULD BE SUBMITTED THROUGH BLACKBOARD

OPTION 1: EVALUATE FURNITURE STYLE IN FILM
Watch a film with an historical setting and evaluate the set design based on your knowledge of the furniture and interior design of the time period represented. You should use the vocabulary learned in class to identify the furniture types, styles, as well as how these pieces are used in the set. Is the set decoration appropriate for the time period, are colors and materials appropriate, is the furniture of the proper time period reflected in the movie (this may not be the same time period as the movie was made)? Use library resources and valid internet sources (wikis, blogs, stores are not valid) to back up your ideas and make sure to cite your sources when using information or opinions that are not your own. We will have a citation exercise to practice citing sources.

Write a paper to describe your findings. Your paper should be 5 pages or more double spaced, 12 point font with footnotes and separate bibliography. Include a cover sheet with your name, name of paper, name of course, instructor and date. Include at least 5 images to enhance your findings (you can pause your movie and snap photos with your phone). These images are not part of the written pages. Do some research on the making of your movie and the style represented by the set. You can find a lot of good information on the internet about movie locales and other interesting things.

For inspiration, here are some movies that you can choose from (check the rating to make sure that it does not contain material that you would consider inappropriate prior to viewing):

- Age of Innocence (1993)
- Amadeus (1984)
- Barry Lyndon (1975)
- Camelot (1967)
- Cheaper By the Dozen (1950)
- Christmas in Connecticut (1945)
- Cleopatra (1963)
- Dangerous Liaisons (1988)
- Desiree (1954)
- Down With Love (2003)
- The Duchess (2008)
- Elizabeth (1998)
- Emma (1996)

- Far From Heaven (2002)
- Gaslight (1944)
- Girl With a Pearl Earring (2004)
- Grand Hotel (1932)
- Hello Dolly (1969)
- Little Women (any version)
- Marie Antoinette (2006)
- Meet Me in Saint Louis (1944)
- Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House (1948)
- Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (1939)
- Music Man (1962)
My Fair Lady (1964)  The Divorcee (1930)
Pillow Talk (1959)  The Graduate (1967)
Pride and Prejudice (any version)  The Women (1932)
The Apartment (1960)

You can also use TV series such as Downton Abbey or Wolf Hall, but you have to be careful because they are set in locales that have a mix of styles. More contemporary ones such as Mad Men are also options.

You must use a minimum of 5 sources for your paper, internet sources are acceptable only if they are scholarly sources (magazine/newspaper articles accessed on the web, books online, educational sources, museums, etc). The NOVA library has a great collection of books on the decorative arts, so start there with style information. **Stores, shops, wikis, blogs, etc are not acceptable sources of information and their use will reduce your grade.**

**Citations:** Decorative arts papers use MLA format. Here is a link to the NOVA library’s page on each style format with great examples on how to cite sources. Make sure to click on the tabs across the page for more great information on citations. [http://libguides.nvcc.edu/MLACitationStyle](http://libguides.nvcc.edu/MLACitationStyle)

Please visit the Writing Center as noted in your syllabus if you have trouble writing. They will not edit or write your paper, but they will help with organization and getting you started in the right direction.
OPTION 2: REPORT ON AN OBJECT

Write a report on an object of your choice. Choose an object that you can personally observe (web accessed objects will not be acceptable, museum objects will not be acceptable, you must be able to open drawers, turn the object upside down, take photos in person, etc), and include at least 5 photos of the object or related to the object in your report. For this exercise you need to be able to see all sides, and insides as well. This assignment calls for your research and observations skills. Your object must be a piece of furniture and it may be American or European (or other global location) in origin. Try not to select something that is unidentifiable or that would be too difficult to research and avoid furniture sitting in your house unless you know that it is from a known 20th century designer or is an antique). If in doubt, ask the instructor.

You will need to research the period of the object, the artist (if known), function, and style of the piece to fully discuss it in its historical setting. Include the origin of the work and/or its provenance. Use the examples provided on the Blackboard website for reference. Your own observations are important not only to provide a thorough and scholarly description of the object, but to analyze every possible clue as to its place, function, or contribution to the world of furniture history.

Your piece of furniture does not have to be particularly old, 20th century pieces are acceptable, especially if well-known and easily researched (lots of mid-century furniture is easy to research).

Your report should be approximately 5 pages double spaced, 12 pt font, with footnotes and separate bibliography. Include a cover page with the title of your report, your name, the class, professor, and date.

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