

ARTIFACT STUDY

Assignment

Using the ARTstor electronic database (<http://www.artstor.org/info/>), select two objects:

- a **Chinese object** that dates from any period **between the Han and Tang dynasties** (206 BCE-907 CE), and
- an object that is a **product of the Roman empire** (27 BCE-476 CE).

Your assignment is to investigate this pair of objects¹ in order to draw some conclusions about:

1. **what each reveals about its culture and period of origin**, as well as
2. **what these objects collectively contribute to a comparative understanding** of Chinese and Roman imperial cultures.

You will **present your research about this pair of objects in class** on January 25 or 26, as scheduled by the instructor. Your presentation should **include some kind of visual aid** (e.g., photocopied handouts, PowerPoint, etc.) and should be **between 7 and 10 minutes** in length.

This presentation is worth **20% of your final grade** for the course.

Your presentation will be assessed in terms of its **clarity, use of time, use of visual aid(s), depth and originality of analysis, quality of oral delivery, and fulfillment of the assignment's basic objectives.**

Resources

- **ARTstor orientation session** in class on January 3
- Consultation with the following **reference librarians** at Hutchins Library:
 1. Ms. Anne Chase (x 3266, anne_chase@berea.edu)
 2. Ms. Susan Henthorn (x 3268, susan_henthorn@berea.edu)
 3. Mr. Ed Poston (x 3172, paul_poston@berea.edu)
- **Course bibliography** (<http://www.berea.edu/faculty/richeyj/AST%20217%20bibliography.pdf>)
- Consultation with the **Learning Center** staff (x 3404, Draper 106)
- Consultation with the **instructor** (x 3186, Draper 204-C; jeffrey_richey@berea.edu)
- All **assigned readings**, especially texts that touch upon some aspect of your selected objects
- Your **classmates** – you are encouraged to work with each other to avoid duplication of effort and encourage clarity of thought!

¹ The most apt pairings will compare two similar types of items – e.g., two religious sculptures, two scenes of everyday life, two funerary objects or grave goods, two military artifacts, etc.