**AP Euro Extra Credit Assignment:**

**Art Analysis Field Trip**

1% Extra Credit Opportunity

(***only available to students who have submitted ALL of their assignments***)

We, here in North Carolina, are within driving distance to a number of museums that house works of European art. I want you to take advantage of this proximity to these museums which provide you with a window into the world of European history. The expectation is that you will visit one of these museums *after receiving confirmation of its acceptance by your teacher* as different museums may involve slightly different assignments. I’ve also included some museums located along the southern/ mid-Atlantic corridor which you may be able to visit.

Acceptable sites include, but are not limited to:

* North Carolina Museum of Art (Raleigh) – sizable European collection
* Ackland Art Museum (UNC-Chapel Hill) – Dutch Republic collection, other European masters
* Nasher Museum of Art (Duke University)

If you decide to take a road trip, you could also try these:

* National Gallery of Art (Washington, DC)
* Phillips Collection (Washington, DC)
* Corcoran Gallery of Art (Washington, DC)
* Philadelphia Museum of Art

After visiting these sites you will be required to complete an analysis of **TWO** works of European art that you saw at the museum. Your analysis will be broken down into the following **THREE** sections:

**1) Name of object, artist, and date created**

**2) Formal analysis**

* Write a detailed description of the "formal" qualities of the art object (*formal* as in "related to the form," not a black tie dinner). In other words, you're looking at the individual design elements, such as **composition (arrangement of parts of or in the work), color, line, texture, scale, proportion, balance, contrast, and rhythm.** Your primary concern in this assignment is to attempt to explain how the artist arranges and uses these various elements.
* For this section it is advised that you go and look at the object for at least 15 minutes and write down what you see. Try to write a *highly detailed* description of the object. You might struggle with this assignment because it is hard to translate what you see into words—don't give up!
* Ideally, if you were to give your written formal analysis to a friend who had never seen the object, s/he would be able to describe or draw the object for you, or at least pick it out of a lineup.
* In writing your formal analysis, focus on creating a logical order so that your reader doesn't get lost. Don't assume that because your instructor has seen the work, I know what you are talking about. Here are a couple of options:
* summarize the overall appearance, then describe the details of the object
* describe the composition and then move on to a description of the materials used (acrylic, watercolor, plaster)
* begin discussing one side of the work and then move across the object to the other side
* describe things in the order in which they draw your eye around the object, starting with the first thing you notice and moving to the next

**2) Stylistic analysis**

* Discuss how the object fits into a particular stylistic category—for example, **Impressionism, Renaissance,** **Mannerism**, etc.**.** Make a conclusion about one of the following:

1. how the work fits the stylistic category
2. how the work does not fit the category

* This stylistic analysis will acquaint you with some of the larger historical trends and forces in the culture and how they influenced the development of art.
* **It would be wise to consult the information desk at the museum if you would like to get some help with your analysis**

***Length of Assignment:***

* 3-5 pages double-spaced

***Due Dates:***

* 4th quarter deadline: Tuesday, May 29

*\*\*Some of this assignment adapted from* [*http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/arthistory.html*](http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/arthistory.html)