# HUM 389 Final Essay Due: BY April 21

**Blackboard SUBMISSIONS in WORD format.**

**Please include your name in the title of the essay**

**Worth: 20%**

**Answer ONE of the following questions.**

For ANY question, you must include discussion of a work of art and please include a photo of the work of art in your paper. Use the posted readings, handouts, notes, and films. Spend some time looking at the work that you are discussing. Since you are not directly observing the work of art at the art gallery, compare a few versions of it- powerpoints, online (museum websites are very good –Metropolitan, Louvre, MoMA, Pompidou, British Museum, National Gallery etc…). If you plan to discuss a film, watch the film (again).

**Type 4 full pages. Approximately 1300 words. Number the pages. Use Chicago Manual of Style to cite any sources and references that you use. Yes, grammar and spelling count.**

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Using two examples of modern architecture, discuss Louis Sullivan’s statements: “As you are, so are your buildings. And as your buildings are, so are you.”
2. What do ***you*** think is the defining characteristic of modernism? Argue for your choice [of characteristic] and describe **two** artworks to illustrate your answer.
3. What role did technology play in the development of the arts and philosophies of the 20th century? What were the prevailing attitudes toward industrialism as depicted through the artistic styles of the time? Explain.
4. Compare Anthony Appiah’s assessment of African art with Dele Jegede’s. What are the important differences between them? With whom do you agree and why?
5. Explain the statement, “*20th century art became more about the idea, less about the object,”* using examples of artists’ manifestos and a work of art.
6. Describe the main characteristics of DADA, and how it emerged from the pessimism and despair of World War I. *Was* DADA anti-art?
7. What are the characteristics of a “fascist aesthetic” according to Susan Sontag? How did totalitarian regimes use this aesthetic to transform politics into art? What does that mean? (you might look at the Benjamin reading again, too)
8. In what ways did artists give their art a deeper social/political relevance in the period between the wars? Discuss a specific movement such as the Harlem Renaissance or the photography of the WPA.
9. What are the key features of postmodernism? How does postmodernism affect contemporary art or architecture?