

FAH101

Tutorial 3

Formal analysis

(continued)



Recap: Formal elements of art and design



COLOR



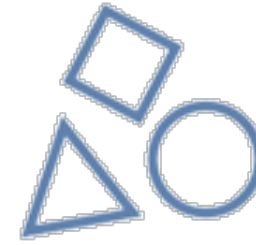
LINE



TEXTURE



SPACE



FORM



SHAPE

Visual/formal elements are like the building blocks of an image or object - the basic aesthetic ingredients that make up an artwork.

These are more objective qualities, specific things you can point to in a work.

Recap: Formal principles



BALANCE



EMPHASIS



HARMONY



MOVEMENT



PROPORTION



RHYTHM



VARIETY



UNITY

Visual/formal principles are the *effects* that are produced by formal elements. These are observable qualities that we perceive in the work, though they aren't as objective as formal elements.

Activity: Formal analysis collaboration

In small groups, choose one panel, or group of panels, from the *Ghent Altarpiece*.

Take some time to closely examine it and consider the following:

- What do you notice (what jumps out at first, what reveals itself with time)?
- What are the dominant formal elements ?
- What are some of the visual principles or characteristics?



Activity: Formally analyze the *Ghent Altarpiece*



Activity: Formal analysis reflections

- What part(s) of the *Ghent Altarpiece* did your group formally analyze?
- Which visual elements and effects were the most important in guiding your viewing experience?
- What could be a potential thesis relating to this object? Feel free to use this format:

“The artists use **[this formal element]** in **[this way]** to achieve **[this result]**.”

- Did any who/what/when/where/why/how questions come up for you?



Compare: Focus of devotion



Above: *Caves of Ajanta*
Right: *Great Mosque of Damascus*



Above: *The Ghent Altarpiece*
Right: *Altar of the Kings (Altar de los Reyes)*



Reminders



Assignment I is due on Sunday - please give yourself the time you have to work on it!

Pro-tips:

- Review the assignment instructions/rubric.
- Leave yourself time to revise and proofread your paper.

Please remember: the teaching team is here to help with your assignment but will *not* edit or read over drafts. If you want someone to read your assignment and offer suggestions, try asking a friend, relative, or classmate: ask them if they get a clear mental picture of the work you're describing and understand what you're saying about it.