

Assignment 5: Painted Pottery

Due Date: Monday, April 22, 2024 (Complete both Part A & B)

Part A: Ancient Greek Myth as Visual Narrative, A Compositional Analysis

Follow the weblink to this object shown in Figure 1. Read about this object. Provide a **compositional analysis of the subject matter painted on Side A of this amphora**. What does the title tell you this scene is about? Who is represented in this mythological scene? How can they be identified?

Research is required—use pantheon.org or theoi.com (scroll to the bottom of the page to get to the search engine), JSTOR, *Encyclopedia Britannica*, or any other scholarly resource for information on this subject (if the web url ends with a .org or a .edu, then you're good). Pay close attention to the scene and look carefully at the details.

In essay format, minimum 3-4 paragraphs (plus intro and conclusion), describe and **define the subject matter and content of this work** for your reader. **Apply relevant art terms**. Introduce your essay with the image and label as given, and **include footnotes**. **Use the given sample analysis as a guide**. Does what the artist paint relate to the myth? Does the composition reflect the subject accurately based on your research?



Figure 1

Artist: Circle of the Antimenes Painter

Side A Shown:

Title: *Herakles and Apollo Fighting Over the Delphic Tripod*
Stylistic Period/Date: Attic Greek, Archaic Period, c. 520 BCE

Medium: Black-figure, terracotta neck amphora

Dimensions: Height, 16 5/16"; Diameter, 11"

Collection: The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, MD

Accession # 48.21

For info and images see, <https://art.thewalters.org/detail/6825/black-figure-amphora-with-herakles-and-apollo-fighting-over-the-tripod/>

Part B: Ancient Aegean and Greek Vase Painting

Materials:

Ceramic pot

Pencil

Black 'glaze' (in this case, black acrylic paint)

Paper for sketching

Paintbrushes (WASH AND RETURN)

· **Paint your own ceramic vessel** in the style of ancient Aegean or Greek potters by creating your own design or copying a design you like. When painting in the *black-figure style*, the figures and ornaments are painted in solid silhouette with details 'scratched in' or incised into the black forms. In *red-figure* painting, the figures and forms are painted in outline and keep the red color of the clay vessel.

Use the materials provided to decorate your pottery. For inspiration on the design see *Gardener's* (chapters 4&5) and the link here, *Visual Glossary of Greek Pottery*, <https://www.ancient.eu/article/489/a-visual-glossary-of-greek-pottery/>

Pottery decoration of the Aegean (e.g. *Octopus Vase*, *Kamares Pitcher*) utilizes stylized and abstracted forms of nature; pottery decoration of ancient Greece utilizes geometric patterns and also figurative scenes of **mythology** and **genre** (scenes of everyday life) in either the black- or red-figure style. You can choose either of these styles to work in and to create your own decoration.

Sketch your design on paper—you will include this preliminary design with your assignment.

Layout and **draw your design onto the pottery with pencil**. Organize the design on the pot in a way that best suits your decoration. Does the function of your pottery call for decoration on the interior of the vessel too? Be creative :)

· Once you have your design laid out, **paint your pottery with the 'glaze.'**

In a paragraph or two, give a statement discussing your subject matter. What did you paint? Why did you choose this subject? What's your takeaway regarding this process of painting? Include a photo of your pottery with your statement and submit your painted pottery in class.