

Assignment Sheet for Anthropocene Analysis

Directions: Find a cultural text or object that you consider to be a representation of the Anthropocene, or engagement with the Anthropocene, or an Anthropocene text/object based on our readings and discussions of the Anthropocene concept. A “cultural text” could be *anything*, really—anything that reveals cultural meaning in any way (there’s only one restriction here: your text/object can’t be a literary work, as we’re already writing about those every week). A cultural text could be a song, or visual artwork, or TV show, or digital image, or a kind of behavior, or an object or space like a rock, weeds growing from cracked pavement, the city dump, a gas station down the street from your house, your backyard, your car, the AUM campus—anything you can analyze for cultural meaning, and, in this case, meaning in/about the Anthropocene.

Once you’ve selected your text/object, write a 750-word paper in which you analyze it—do a close reading! In essence, you’re taking the same skills you’ve learned about analyzing literature to analyze a cultural text/object—it’s the same process, but instead of analyzing only the language in detail (depending on your text/object, you may have language/words as well), you’re analyze the object and what it’s made up of, whatever that is! (typically a combination of image, words, and atmosphere/space). Post your text/object and your paper to Blackboard for everyone to check out (see the discussion board directions).