GROUP PROJECTS – Post Research Proposal Options

• **Option 1:** Research Project (Social Science Paradigm)

This option is to maintain the project you have been working on throughout the semester. In this project, you pose original research questions related to some component of course material, and investigate hypotheses by carrying out quasi-experiments. These quasi-experiments yield new data that you analyze using theories/concepts discussed during class. Your research should be supplemented with references, and you must, in addition to the final report, produce an infographic/poster/video that presents the main components of your research.

The maximum score you can receive for this option is 100% (A).

• **Option 2:** Research Project (Interpretive Paradigm)

In choosing this option, you pick a body of artwork (eg., a series of drawing/paintings/photographs by a single artist, or a series of album covers by a particular artist, etc.)¹ You then analyze the body of artwork using the theories/concepts, and write up your results in the form of an opinion essay – this means that you cannot have a set of unrelated analyses! You must have an original underlying thesis statement/main claim that your analyses support (eg., “We argue that Kate McDowell's series of porcelain sculptures express the main themes of the Ecological Approach to nature aesthetics,” or something like that), and support this with reasoning and evidence.) As with option 1, in addition to your final report, you must produce an infographic/poster/video that presents the main components of your argument.

The maximum score you can receive is 80% (A).

• **Option 3:** Educational Project

In this option, you produce an infographic/poster/video that explains a set of concepts/theories. Your goal is to educate an audience who has not taken aesthetics, and to use *original examples* to illustrate each concept. You must choose from the following (or get my approval):

(a) Three Concepts of Art: Aesthetic, Contextualist, Constructivist
(b) Representational vs Expressive Aspects of Art
(c) Kant's Criteria for an Aesthetic Judgement
(d) Formalist Approaches to Nature Aesthetics: The Object, Landscape and Impressionist Approaches
(e) Environmental Approaches to Nature Aesthetics: The Immersion, Order Appreciation and Ecological Approaches
(f) Approaches to Interpretation and Intention: Intentionalist vs Anti-Intentionalist, and Monistic vs Pluralistic Approaches

The maximum score you can receive for this option is 70% (B).

• **Option 4:** No Group Project → Weight is reassigned to midterm (10%), final (15%)

¹ I suggest looking at the following websites to find examples of contemporary artwork:

http://www.thisiscosossal.com/
http://artistaday.com/
http://designcollector.net/
http://www.inspirefirst.com/
http://www.booooom.com/