

Creative Practice Signature Work Paper Guidelines

There are two types of creative practice-based signature work paper types. Those based on scholarly creative outcomes and those based on tangible artistic and/or creative outcomes. Scholarly creative practice papers are conventional research papers that build an original argument by discussing and analyzing other scholarly and artistic works. Artistic/creative papers likewise draw on other scholarly and artistic works to explain the background, procedures, and outcomes of a student's original creative, artistic, or design project. Refer to the list below to determine which creative practice signature work paper structure you should use and follow the guidelines in the appropriate section below the table.

Creative Practice Signature Work Paper Types	
Scholarly Creative Practice Signature Work Papers (25-30 pages)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art, Media, or Design History• Art, Media, or Design Theory• Art, Media, or Design Critique• Curatorial Writing
Artistic/Creative Practice Signature Work Papers (15-20 pages)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical or Digital Artwork• Physical or Digital Design Project• Creative Computing Application Demos• Social Media and Branding Campaigns• Creative Writing / Translation

Scholarly Creative Practice Signature Work Paper

I. Page Requirement

Scholarly creative practice signature work papers should be between 25 and 30 pages.

II. Scholarly Apparatus

Students who chose a scholarly creative practice signature work project must choose one reference style and use it consistently from the signature work proposal phase to the final signature work paper. The two choices are APA in-text citation format using the author-date method or the Chicago Notes and Bibliography System, using footnotes.

III. Bibliography

Signature work proposals must cite at least ten sources in the bibliography, while final signature work papers must cite at least twenty. Bibliographic formatting should adhere to the referencing format chosen for the project. Any source listed in the bibliography must be cited somewhere in the text.

IV. Literature Review

The literature review is essential for engaging with scholarship and acknowledging the scholarly creative practice signature work projects' historical and cultural significance in creative practice. We recommend students take the following steps in completing the literature review:

- Step 1 - Search for relevant literature
- Step 2 - Evaluate your sources
- Step 3 - Determine the themes, debates, and gaps
- Step 4 - Outline the structure
- Step 5 - Write your literature review

The literature review should include an introductory paragraph explaining the project topic's importance and how it fits into the broader subject area. This introduction should also explain key terms, concepts, and background information. The main body of the literature review can be structured in different ways (e.g. thematic or chronological). Still, it should discuss sources by describing and evaluating publications, summarizing main points, and identifying gaps in the research area. Each paragraph must make a relevant point, which should be articulated in the topic sentence. The literature review conclusion paragraph should summarize the points you have made.

V. Methods Section

The methods sections must explain how the student completed the project. They should build on the methods section of the signature work proposal, where students laid out a plan for what they wanted to do. However, the signature work paper will be written in the past tense and outline what students did.

VI. Writing Quality

Papers should be well-written with clear and concise language, thoroughly proofread, and free from significant formatting, grammar, and syntax deficiencies.

Artistic/Creative Practice Signature Work Paper

I. Page Requirement

Artistic/creative practice signature work papers should be between 15 and 20 pages.

II. Scholarly Apparatus

Students who chose an artistic/creative practice signature work project must choose one reference style and use it consistently from the signature work proposal phase to the final signature work paper. The two choices are APA in-text citation format using the author-date method or the Chicago Notes and Bibliography System, using footnotes.

III. Abstract

The abstract should clearly state the artistic/creative/design project's thesis, hypothesis, purpose, or research question. Include the motivation and significance of the artistic/creative/design work and the general methods and processes used to complete the project. The abstract should also summarize the principal findings of the creative research and point to significant conclusions. This should be the section you write last to ensure it accurately reflects the final signature work paper content. Abstracts should be approximately 200 words

IV. Media and Literature Review

In addition to following the general guidelines of the literature review section IV of the "Scholarly Creative Practice Signature Work Paper" guidelines above. This section also lays out a clear argument for establishing your perspective on the artistic/creative/design signature work project research question. You should provide a theoretical and historical review of relevant literature and media, including case studies of works in your medium of choice (i.e., film, installation, fictional narrative, interactive media, game, etc.). Focus the discussion on precedents that reference your creative project.

V. Methods, Process and Materials

This section focuses on the discussion and perspective positioned in the paper's Media and Literature Review section. This section should describe your creative process, techniques, technologies, and the material used to produce your final artistic/creative/design project. For certain types of works, such as artworks, installations, films, digital works, games, websites, apps, etc., this section should also reflect your artistic, creative, or design process through a discourse about your various prototypes, user studies,

play tests, etc. For film and video works, you could include discussions on narrative and story development, character design, cinematography, editing and special effects approaches, etc.

VI. Final Creative Product and Reflection

Students should write about their final artistic/creative/design product outcome and its form. This could be a film, an art installation, a performative piece, a game, a creative writing or translation project, etc. They should reference the precedents and sources used in the “Media and Literature Review” and how these influenced the methods and materials used to create their final product. For example, an installation artwork would include a concept statement, a description of the work, an exhibition design and rationale, and possible images, audio, and video documentation of the work in its finished state. This section should also include an interpretation of the final product in the context of the research question. Do not repeat the discussion points from previous sections or include irrelevant material. The reflection should be based on what you achieved for the outcome and could also include the next steps and development plans for the artistic/creative/design project.

VII. Precedents & Bibliography

Signature work proposals must cite at least five pieces of literature, artwork, or design sources in the precedents & bibliography. In contrast, final signature work papers must cite at least ten sources. Bibliographic/precedent formatting should adhere to the referencing format chosen for the project. Any source listed in the precedent & bibliography section must be cited somewhere in the text.