

**WGS 340: Sexuality Studies**  
**Fall 2023**  
**Professor Armstrong**

*An Object of One's Own: "Reading" and Presenting a QAP Artifact*

This assignment has two parts:

1. A written reflection/analysis, due in class on Thursday, November 9th
2. A short (5 min) presentation "introducing" your artifact and connecting it to a class reading (also on November 9th)

**1. Reflection/Analysis (80%)**

Pick an archival artifact from the QAP digital humanities site ([qap.lafayette.edu](http://qap.lafayette.edu)). Any object/item *except an oral history interview* is fair game. You can explore "4: Themes from Interviews" and/or "5. LGBTQ+ Keywords," or you can go to "7: All Archival Artifacts" and see what catches your eye, too. Don't spend too much time choosing the artifact.

*Once you have picked your artifact, write a short analysis (2-3 pages) that covers three aspects:*

- a) Describe the artifact: What kind of object is it? Does it have a date? Author? Why was it made or created? What is its ostensible purpose? Does the object speak to specific people, organizations, or institutions?
- b) Extrapolate from it to think about the Queer past: what does it reveal or suggest about LGBTQ+ history at Lafayette? Does it relate to anything we have discussed or encountered in class in terms of how identities are created and/or shaped by institutions?
- c) What more do you want to know? What do you wish you could ask the creator(s) of the artifact? Why? What would you like to learn about the item that now seems lost to time? Why?

**2. Super-short presentation (20%)**

Share your main findings with the class (the one slide you show should be the artifact itself!): first, briefly describe the object, then share what you think it suggests about Lafayette's LGBTQ+ history and note what you'd ideally like to know more about.

You won't have time to go into your analysis with as much depth as your written reflection. Just give us a sense of what you found and the directions in which the object pointed you.