

Keyword Scholar's Journal

Material Culture
Spring 2009

Because the ways scholars define, treat, attend or not attend to key terms offer insights into their theoretical positions on material culture, you'll want to pay particular attention to the use of, or silence on, key terms in our readings. To that end, you will keep a keyword scholar's journal where you will record definitions, quotations, and your impressions of how a scholar treats **two keywords** of your choosing.

- Select two key terms that interest you.
- As you read assigned pieces, take note of how the author(s) defines, uses, ignores, challenges, or extends your key terms and/or synonyms for your key terms. Enter your observations in your journal (e.g., a notebook, electronic file, and so on).
- Periodically (every 3-4 weeks), reread your entries and write a reflection on your observations so far in your journal.
- You might find it useful to jot down questions as you read, or make other observations on the readings and the class discussions, and draw connections among assigned and out-of-class readings. In other words, your journal should serve as a valuable resource for grappling with the readings and for conducting your own seminar project.
- Bring you Keyword Scholar's Journal to each class. We'll use these at times as a jumping off point for discussions and activities.

Be prepared to discuss your keywords and any patterns you've noticed on April 13 and/or April 20.

The Keyword Scholar's Journal is **DUE on or before Monday, April 20**