

Khai Taylor

Ryan Smith

ART 466

March 24, 2026

Research for Furry Fandom Webpage

For Project 2, I will be creating a website about the Furry Fandom, which is a subculture primarily residing in online spaces. The first thing to define in my research is what the Furry fandom is and what it means to be a furry. For a simple definition, a furry is a person who enjoys anthropomorphic animals. Anthropomorphic meaning having human-like characteristics, some examples are standing on 2 legs, human speech, or having human mannerisms. What makes someone a furry is simply if they self-identify as one, so if a person does not identify themselves as a furry, they are not a furry. The history behind the fandom is rooted in online chatrooms and role-playing games based from the early days of the internet. Nowadays, the fandom has evolved to include attending conventions, creating art and stories, and providing a safe space for individuals.

One of the key themes about the furry fandom is creating a safe space for individuals. Much of the community population consists of people who identify as Neurodivergent or LGBTQ+. There have been surveys done that count the number of people in these categories. One of the biggest parts of the Furry fandom is the ability to create your own representation of yourself as an anthro animal. This is known as a Fursona. Fursonas have a broad definition that allows people to personalize how they represent themselves to others. Fursonas can be any animal (real or fictional), any

gender, and are limited only by the creativity of the person making them. This freedom of self expression allows the people behind these Fursonas to create a version of themselves that they feel the most confident about.