ENGL 202
Annotated Bibliography

The purpose of this assignment is twofold: first, you will learn correct MLA citation style along with writing summaries of dense articles and second, you will learn how to organize your extensive research for your final paper. In general, an annotated bibliography provides a reader with two types of information. Annotations provide basic citation material in MLA-style that tells the reader where he or she might find the source if needed. The bibliographic information, therefore, must be accurate. The second type of information found in this assignment is the summary. The annotation is a written summary of the source as it relates to your research project. The annotated bibliography, then, will prepare you for the task of writing, of pulling all of your thoughts and theories on a subject and making them into something meaningful and coherent. This assignment will give your reader an idea about the quality of the work you will produce based on the research you have chosen to highlight. This is the most academically formal piece of writing you'll do this semester and your success here can largely indicate how you will fare on the rest of the assignments.

Assignment Guidelines

- Select **four** of the most relevant and credible sources among all that you find during your research. This means that you do not simply pick the first sources you find. You must actually read your sources to determine whether or not they will aid you in answering your research question this semester. Your sources MUST BE from scholarly, peer-reviewed journals. You may also use relevant material from other academic sources such as chapters of books, credible electronic sources, credible magazine articles, in your final paper. For this assignment, only scholarly, peer-reviewed journal articles will be accepted.
- Write the bibliographic information using MLA citation style. *Follow all of the guidelines for formatting and citation in MLA style.* This link at Purdue's Online Writing Lab will be useful for you.
- Write an annotation (summary) for each source. Annotations should include four parts:
    - a summary of the material (what is the article about? what claims does the author make?)
    - a description of evidence (how does the author back up his/her claims?)
    - a comment on the credibility of source
    - a specific outline as to how you plan to use this source in your research
- Annotations should be no less than 150 words (not including the bibliographic citation). The reader should clearly see what is relevant, substantive, and credible about your source and how it will be applicable to your research question.
- Do not pick the 4 shortest articles you can find. This will not serve you well for the research paper.

Basic Requirements

Failure to meet the basic requirements below will result in a grade of 50 or lower.

- 4 academic peer-reviewed citations in correct MLA format
- 4 substantive annotations, each with the following: 1) a summary of the material, 2) description of evidence, 3) comment on credibility, and 4) how you plan to use this material in *your paper*.
- Layout: MLA-style: 12 point Times New Roman font, double-spaced pages, page numbers and last name in the top right corner as a header.
- First Page: Top left corner (not header) should have: (in this order) Your Name, My Name (Dr. Melissa Birkhofer – spelled correctly), Course Number and Section (ENGL 202.XX), Date, and then add a descriptive title centered on the page, not bolded; no title page
- Free of grammatical and mechanical errors. Absolutely no misspellings.
- No fragments.
- Word Count listed at the end of each summary – not including citation information (*Note*: falsifying a word count IS cheating)
- No web citations ending in .com
- Annotations may be longer, but absolutely no less than 150 words each not including bibliographic information.