

ANNOTATED WORKS CITED

ENGL 108 / SEC. H & I / SUMMER LEAP 2009 / OLDHAM & RUBASKY / CHANG & LEE

WEEK

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Part of the academic and scholarly enterprise is research. Unfortunately, not all research nor references nor sources are created equal. Organizing, evaluating, and selecting research materials is just as important as finding relevant books, articles, studies, reports, images, videos, and artifacts. The critical thinking and close reading skills you have been developing become necessary tools for finding and choosing quality references. Choosing solid and useful references can influence the authority and strength and exigence of your writing, your argument, and your evidence.

Before You Begin Writing

It is good habit to make notes about your sources as you discover them and read through them. What are the main arguments of the source? What are the main points and the main examples or evidence? Is the source relevant to my research, my claim? Is the source credible, timely, and useful? Attach your notes to a copy of your source (if possible). Your notes may save you time and effort during your writing process as you sift through what you need and use in your work.

Your notes can also be used to generate an **annotated works cited** or bibliography. One entry of your bibliography will be given an extended note. In many academic disciplines, annotated bibliographies published with essays or articles help readers (potential researchers) with a summary and brief evaluation of a source. Furthermore, in creating an annotated bibliography for yourself you are crystallizing the main points of your research, which may serve as points for review, revision, support, interrogation, challenge, discussion, and exploration.

Goals and Outcomes

Annotated bibliographies come in many different forms, with many different conventions. In this class, you will be required to write-up an MLA style annotated bibliography. However, all annotations across disciplines require: critical analysis of the source and summary of the source. A basic annotated bibliography may follow the following format (each entry contains):

- 1) standard MLA-format bibliographic entry.
- 2) a paragraph of summary; summarize main ideas, main points, main arguments; identify the writer's main position; directly quote useful portions or information.
- 3) one to three paragraphs of critical evaluation or analysis; why is the source useful or relevant; how does the source relate to your research topic.

By now, you should have done research for your Read-Search Project. Remember that your Read-Search Project requires a works cited of **three** useful, authoritative sources—2 articles, 1 book. For this assignment, using proper format, generate a bibliographic entry and annotation for each of your references. Appropriate resources for annotation can include chapters in books, newspaper articles, journal articles, pamphlets and brochures, documentaries, films, news stories, and websites. However, select sources with care—do not just take the first that you find. Consider how each provides a different kind of evidence and how each may be appropriate in certain writing contexts.

Guidelines and Due Dates

- Format:** 1-2 pages, typed, double-spaced, 1" margins, title, proper heading, 12-point Times Roman font, MLA bibliographic format, proofread and edited, stapled
A finalized, revised version of your annotated works cited will be turned in with your Read-Search Project
- Due:** Thursday, July 30 at 9:00 AM