

Annotated Bibliography Prompt

Course: ENC1102/ENC1939
Instructor: Nico Cassanetti

Formatting Requirements: Annotations of no less than 200 words, double spaced, Garamond or TNR font, MLA formatted, and submitted in the same document as your third paper.

Total Points Possible: 100

Rough Draft Due Date: TBA
Final Draft Due Date: TBA

FYI: YOU SHOULD COMPLETE LESSON: HOW TO DO AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY PRIOR TO BEGINNING THIS ASSIGNMENT!

As part of the research component of your third and final paper, you will be composing an Annotated Bibliography instead of a traditional works cited page like those that were required for your first two papers. As you learned in the corresponding lesson, an annotated bibliography provides specific information about each source you have used in your paper and why those sources are so vital in supporting the central argument (thesis) of your essay.

For this assignment, you must annotate no less than **SIX [6]** of the credible sources you used in your paper, and at least **THREE [3]** of them must be sources founding during your own outside research (aka not one of the course readings/movies). Because the annotated bibliography **replaces** the works cited page, it should come **directly after** the body of your paper with the page numbers continuing sequentially (ie, if your essay ends halfway down page 6 then your Annotated Bibliography should begin on page 7 of the same word document).

If you have not done annotated bibliographies in the past, you will find it helpful to read Purdue's guide to writing annotated bibliographies: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01/>

GUIDELINES:

A traditional annotated bibliography asks you to summarize each source used in an essay. In addition to this, you will explain, in a second paragraph (two paragraphs are required for each of your annotations, the guidelines for which are included below), how you plan on using each source in your essay to effectively support an argument, analysis, and/or offer necessary background information to help educate your audience on your chosen topic.

Each of your annotated bibliography entries should:

- 1) Contain the full, correct MLA citation for the sources you will be annotating
- 2) Feature two thorough paragraphs supported by textual evidence (approx. 200 words/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a page in length)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON YOUR CHOSEN SOURCES:

- **Does the Dictionary Count?:** Although definitions of words are fine to include in a paper, they are not considered “supporting evidence”. You must still create a citation for dictionary references, but they do not count towards the 6 required supporting sources for this assignment and thus do NOT need an annotation.
- **More Than Six?** You are certainly permitted to have more than six sources—including any and all assigned readings/films/etc.—but you don’t have to do more than six annotations.
- **What if a Source from my Rough Draft is No Longer in my Paper?** That’s fine—and that’s also why I only require two annotations for the rough draft. Make sure you know a source is strong, CREDIBLE and useful before you commit to annotating it.

To compose your Annotated Bibliography, follow these steps:

- Create and list citations, in MLA format (see MLA cheat sheet) for all the sources you used in your essay. This includes both sources you quoted directly and those you paraphrased. (*Note: Although this assignment only requires annotations for six sources, you must create and list citations for ALL the sources referenced in your paper*).
- Under each citation, include two paragraphs, both of at least 100 words each, that respond to the following questions:
 - a. **Paragraph 1:** The first paragraph should give a complete summary of the source. What is the source called? Who is the author, and why are they credible (or not credible)?
 - i. Be sure that for critical works, you are giving a full summary of the author’s argument, not just the first few pages (ex. “In [full title], [author] argues _____.”)
 - ii. Summarize the sub-claims of this main argument. In other words, what are the argumentative “building blocks” of this article? What sources are referenced within it, and why?
 - iii. Being clear why your source is credible here is even more important here than in your essay. Research the writer and the publication, cross-check the studies and interviews to be sure your sources are strong and reliable.
 - b. **Paragraph 2:** The second paragraph should give your assessment of the source and make clear why you are choosing to use this source in your essay (be specific—saying “because it agrees with my argument” is too easy, and suggests clear bias)
 - i. Make clear why this source proved more valuable as support for your essay than other sources you came across that are similar to it.
 - ii. The author has not exhausted every aspect of this topic. If you agree with the author’s argument and find it convincing, you may want to consider how it

applies to additional examples or sub-claims you crafted on your own to extend and complicate the argument.

Format:

- The paragraphs should be indented the same way you indent blocked quotes/in line with the handing indentation from your citations (see Purdue owl for example here: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01/>)
- Organize your sources alphabetically like your normal works cited page
- Replace “Works Cited” with “Annotated Bibliography”
- Adhere to proper MLA formatting guidelines (12pt font, TNR/Garamond, 1” margins, etc.)

Your annotated bibliography will be graded based on thoroughness and thoughtfulness of your annotations, meeting of required annotation lengths, meeting **ALL** assignment requirements correctness of grammar/MLA, and effective development of your sentences (aka, your annotation aren't choppy).