

## Part I: Annotated Bibliography

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### **What is an annotated bibliography?**

A bibliography is an alphabetical list of sources with publication information that you have collected through your research. An annotated bibliography takes this a step further by having you include a brief entry on the content, relevance, and credibility of your source.

For this research project, you should write at least a page on each of your sources. This means that you will need a total of 6 (yes, six--one for each source!) pages for your annotated bibliography. Each entry should include the following information:

- 1) a complete citation in MLA style
- 2) a concise summary of the source (brief description of the main argument
- 3) an evaluation of the author(s)'s qualifications (what makes them reputable sources?)
- 4) an explanation of the source's relevance to your topic
- 5) an explanation of what the source contributes to your research that your other sources do not

Also, please write your research question at the top of the first page of the annotated bib.

\*Note: you do not have to have completed the book-length text for this assignment. Just have a general sense of what the book is about, what the author's credentials are, and how it will inform your research.

If you would like to look at sample annotated bibliographies, please email me or see me in office hours.

### **What is the best method for finding all the different sources required for this assignment?**

Your first impulse may be to Google your topic, which is fine if you're simply trying to generate better search terms (aka keywords) for your later searches. However, I recommend going to your school library's website where you can search not just their catalog of books but also academic and newspaper article databases.

Lastly, if you prefer to talk to real human beings, you can always ask the librarians for help. This is their area of expertise! Different librarians even specialize in certain subjects to help you find more relevant material.