**Annotated Bibliography**

For this class, your annotated bibliography will be made up of 4 entries on a selected topic, and each entry has 2 parts:

A) An MLA style citation

B) An annotation

Basically, you need to read four articles all on the same topic – these should reliable articles – NOT tabloids. Then you write an entry for each one.

FIRST OF ALL, WHAT IS A CITATION?

A citation provides the complete publishing information on your source.  Sample MLA citations can be found in your textbook as well as on the class page.

WHAT IS AN ANNOTATION?

The ones you write must be 100-150 words, not including the words in the citation

An annotation is a short summary of your source, and it is also a critique of it. Simply put, your annotations do two things:
1) Explain, or summarize, what the source is about, and the source’s thesis is summarized somewhere in your annotation.
2) Evaluate why the source is a worthwhile one to read for your topic

Your objective here is that anyone who reads your final work will understand the argument at stake in each of your sources.  They will also know the problems or solutions, if any, that the source proposes.  Finally, they will understand from your evaluation whether the source is of a superior nature, or if they should go look for a different source on this subject.

Sample Entry:

Cohen, Marc A., Nanda Kumar, and Stanley S. Wallack. “New Perspective on the Affordability of Long-term Care Insurance and Potential Market Size.” The Gerontologist 33.1 (1993): 105-13.

There are a variety of ways in which the elderly and their family pay for long-term health care. The cost of long-term care is high, but the majority of individuals who are without long-term care say that the cost does not play a role in their decision not to purchase it. However, more individuals from an educated, wealthier background purchased a policy than any other group. Still, one-third of policy buyers come from a middle class background (109). In order to help solve the problem, individuals believe a government plan rather than an individual private plan would make them more likely to purchase long-term care. Although this article may be useful to individuals with more knowledge on the topic, it was not written for people new to the subject

* The above example of an entry is contributed, with permission, by one of my former students.
* Notice the example entry begins with the citation, the first line of which is flush to the left margin. However, the second line of the citation is formatted with a hanging indent. In MS Word you can click on “Format,” then “Paragraph,” and finally “Special” and change the option there from “none” to “hanging.”
* The second part of the example entry is the annotation, and the word count is 129, which does not include the words in the citation. The entire annotation is flush to the left margin.
* Your annotations must be 100 to 150 words for each annotation, which does not include the words in the citation.