GNED 1404.004 Winter 2020
Instructor: Dr. Colin Martin

Assignment: Annotated Bibliography/Literature Review
One of the key jobs of the academic researcher is secondary research, or the review of relevant published research on a given topic. This assignment asks you to take on the role of academic researcher and to begin the work of compiling an annotated bibliography; a list of relevant research sources with a one-paragraph annotation of each entry in your bibliography. The annotation is a brief summary of the resource that accurately communicates the gist of the work and gives relevant details about it to people doing work on the chosen research topic.

Library use is thus required. Be wary of the repute and accuracy of most internet sources, the use of which is discouraged. Gather research from academic journal articles using the library’s databases (e.g. Alberta Research Portal, JSTOR, MLA, ASC). To further ensure an exhaustive search for materials, you can visit other libraries (U of C/AUArts/CPL). Demonstrate engagement with experts and your ability to conduct and cite research properly. In accordance with the academic honesty policy outlined on the course syllabus, the inclusion of all information from secondary sources must be properly attributed in MLA style. Be transparent and use reportage.

The document should have a title page, a page-long introduction to the topic, and a minimum of five entries arranged in MLA style in alphabetic order with a paragraph length annotation following each entry. Do not use our textbooks for this assignment. An example of how the entries should look appears below.

Required
1. A 250-word preface outlining your chosen subject or topic of research;
2. A minimum of five (5) works cited, with annotations of ~150 words;
3. Each work cited must be a different type of resource; for instance, a single authored book, a multi-authored book, a single-authored research paper, a multi-authored research paper, a website, a chapter from an anthology, a multimedia source, etc.;
4. Bibliographic entries cited above the annotations in MLA style, in alphabetic order (see sample entry below);
5. MLA style for document, with separate title page.

Grading
The exercise will be graded on the following:
- quality of the research displayed, including attention to peer-reviewed sources;
- helpfulness (professionalism) of the annotations;
- relevance of topic and of the sources to that topic;
- quality of the writing, both in terms of grammar and accuracy;
- adherence to MLA style, and to these instructions;
- insight and understanding demonstrated in the writing.
Due Date: February 13, 2020
The assignment must be submitted in hard copy at the beginning of class, and it must deal with topic matter significant to the course; in other words, consider matter significant to the reading and understanding of images and how they impact our lives. I strongly recommend pursuing a topic that you hope to write about for your research proposal and paper.

Sample Entry:

Proposed Bibliography


Heather and Roger Graves’ text on technical communication serves as a stage by stage introduction to both the theories of and the practice of designing, writing, and circulating technical documents relevant to a number of professional writing and communication genres. Beginning with attention to the importance of genre and audience, the text makes the key argument that different writing contexts not only have different potential audiences, but also have different writing structures, and that understanding how best to communicate ideas to an audience requires understanding both how that audience plans to use information, and how the writer wants the information to be useful. For example, “Chapter Six: Communicating with Visuals” demonstrates how various types of content can be best shown using differing types of table or graph – a pie graph for percentages, a table for large datasets – while also adding to the ethical weight of an argument by demonstrating data in clear and transparent form.