Annotated Bibliography Assignment - HUMANISTIC INQUIRY version

Pick a topic in the humanities that interests you; confirm it with your instructor. Examples of topics you might choose include: Central American poetry, or a comparison of different branches of Buddhism.

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Go the libraries’ website at <https://libraries.usc.edu/>. Under the Research menu, choose “Research Guides.” Research guides are curated collections of resources (like databases, catalogs, websites, archival collections). Choose one of the following guides that most closely reflects your topic, and underline it:

* Comparative Literature
* English Language & Literature
* French Language & Literature
* German Language & Literature
* History (Historiography)
* History, (Africa, Asia, etc.)
* Italian Language & Literature
* Linguistics
* Philosophy
* Religion
* Russian Language & Literature
* Slavic Language & Literature
* Spanish and Portuguese Language & Literature

Below, you’ll be asked to find three types of sources. Use the research guide to identify resources where you can search. **For example:** on the Religion Research Guide, there are tabs for “Find Books,” “Find Journal Articles,” and “Sacred Texts.” Under the “Sacred Texts” tab, you could search the website “Internet Sacred Text Archive” to find a primary source. Use the descriptions of each database, catalog, or website to judge what sources you could look for there.

Find one of each of the following types of sources, keeping your topic in mind.

**Source 1: Primary source**

*(examples: novel or short story, archival document, oral history, sacred text)*

In which resource (e.g., library catalog, JSTOR) did you find this source?

Under which tab in the research guide is the resource listed?

Search terms used to find the source:

MLA citation for the source (see Citation research guide for guidance - <http://libguides.usc.edu/citation>):

What makes this a primary source?

What unique purpose does a primary source bring to a research paper or project on this topic?

**Source 2: Critical analysis**

*(examples: literary criticism of a work or author, linguistic analysis of a group of documents, critical analysis of a philosophical work)*

In which resource (e.g., library catalog, JSTOR) did you find this source?

Under which tab in the research guide is the resource listed?

Search terms used to find the source:

MLA citation for the source (see Citation research guide for guidance - <http://libguides.usc.edu/citation>):

What makes this a critical analysis?

What unique purpose does critical analysis bring to a research paper or project on this topic?

**Source 3: Theoretical or introductory reference work**

*(examples: a philosopher’s original ethical framework, theory of language acquisition, description of a literary movement)*

In which resource (e.g., library catalog, JSTOR) did you find this source?

Under which tab in the research guide is the resource listed?

Search terms used to find the source:

MLA citation for the source (see Citation research guide for guidance - <http://libguides.usc.edu/citation>):

What makes this a theoretical or introductory reference work?

What unique purpose does a theoretical or introductory reference work bring to a research paper or project on this topic?