

Annotated Bibliography & Research Reflection Assignments

Due Tues, 10/19/2010

Annotated Bibliography

An annotated bibliography is a list of citations to books, articles, and documents followed by a brief descriptive and evaluative paragraph.

A **citation** is the information needed to find the full text of a publication. It generally includes: author(s), title, publisher, date. Citation of an article in a periodical generally includes: author(s), article title, source journal title, volume, pages, and date.

The annotation is a summary and evaluation of that source. For your annotations, I'd like you to include several paragraphs after each entry explaining how this source helps you to answer your research question and therefore helps you to address the prompt for Essay #1.

Using the library's databases, find at least 5 sources that will help you answer the questions you developed about what's happening with regard to CA public education. Deal with each source one at a time and go through the following steps.

1. Start by writing the bibliographic citation for the source using proper MLA format. To do this, go to this website: http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/RES5e_ch08_s1-0011.html [Link dead, use <https://irsc.libguides.com/mla/annotatedbibliography> instead. JVL] and look up the kind of source you are using and follow that format. (You can also get to this site by going through the External Links folder in blackboard.)
2. For each source, take notes on the information that helps you to answer your research questions and jot down the most interesting or important quotations from the text (at least note down the page numbers and mark the spot in the text). Remember, the essay that you will write must be written primarily in your own words, but you can and should use quotations from the text to help you support or illustrate your points.
3. Finally, write an annotation of each source that contains the following:
 - A *brief* summary of the source (no more than a paragraph) *in your own words*
 - A discussion of the purpose and audience of the source, including an explanation of how you made your determination
 - An evaluation of the source in terms of its purpose, its depth, the author's credibility/authority, and the author's perspective

Research Reflection

Write an exploratory journal entry in which you:

1. Document your research process (e.g. what databases & keywords do you use to find your sources & why)
2. Compare the sources that you found, noting which one(s) you find most useful for the purposes of this research project; which one(s) seem the most credible & why; & which one(s) most closely reflect (or differ from) your own experiences and expectations & why.