

Explore an Explorer!!!

Your First Semester Research Project

There are three main parts of your research project:

1. Develop a **research question**
2. Write an **annotated bibliography**
3. Complete your **Scribble Map**

You will be tasked with crafting an annotated bibliography that includes sources that you have explored and identified as being useful in writing an analytical paper on a research question that you will create. You will not actually be writing the paper, but you will be engaging in the research process as if you were going to do so. The objectives of this assignment are:

- to find a variety of scholarly secondary and primary sources relating to your assigned explorer
- to create a narrow and focused **research question** about your assigned explorer
- to analyze sources in terms of their relevance to your research question
- to create a properly formatted bibliography using Chicago Style Citations

You will conduct extensive research on the explorer that you are assigned. As you find your sources and conduct your research you will develop a question that will help drive your research. As you continue your research, you will be refining your research question. Once this happens, you will create an annotated bibliography of the sources that would be useful in writing a paper that answers your research question.

By **Thursday November 14, 2013** you will have developed a refined research question accompanied by an annotated bibliography that includes a total of 5 annotated sources. Your bibliography must include a minimum of 3 secondary sources and 1 primary source. The fifth source is your choice.

Due Date: **Thursday November 14, 2013**

Process for Completing this Assignment

#1

- Assign project and colony to be researched
- Homework: Go onto the Library Website and search the catalogue for resources that you think might be useful—fill out the chart below. You can use ebooks.

	Book Title	Author	Call # or <u>STABLE URL</u>
Book 1			
Book 2			
Book 3			
Book 4			
Book 5			

#2

Instruction on how to find Secondary Sources Find secondary sources on your colony

Read and begin gathering information on your colony

Homework: Read about your colony and come to class with one typed out research question to help guide your further research and complete your annotated bibliography.

#3

Continue to find/read secondary sources

- Begin annotations on your secondary sources
- Homework: Continue research and complete 2 annotations and create 5 new research questions

#4

Instruction on how to find Primary Sources. Search for primary sources.

Homework: Continue research and make sure all your sources are correctly cited in Chicago format and choose/revise your ONE research question (Your Thesis)

#5

- Continue research and complete annotations. Project is due on **Thursday November 11, 2013**

- You must complete your annotated bibliography in Google docs.
- You must share your Google doc with me:
Rachel_johnson@collegiate-va.org.
- Remember that your citations must be in Chicago Style format.
 - Refer to your Purple Writing Handout for help with citations.
- Each of your annotations must be in **complete sentences** and **proper paragraph form**!

Guide to Creating Research Questions & Writing an Annotated Bibliography

Adapted from: George Mason University's Writing Center <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/resources-template.php?id=59>

Creating Research Questions

What is a research question?

- A research question is a clear, focused, concise, complex and arguable question around which you center your research. You should ask a question about an issue that you are genuinely curious about.

Why is a research question essential to the research process?

- Research questions help writers focus their research by providing a path through the research and writing process. The specificity of a well-developed research question helps writers avoid the "all-about" paper and work toward supporting a specific, arguable thesis.

Steps

- Choose an interesting general topic. Even directed academic research should focus on a topic in which the writer is at least somewhat personally invested. Writers should choose a broad topic about which they genuinely would like to know more.
- Do some preliminary research on your general topic.
- Start asking questions. Taking into consideration the above, start asking yourself open-ended "how" and "why" questions about your general topic. For example, "How did the effects of colonialism impact the economic development of India?" or "Why was violence used as a way to protest colonial rule?"
- Evaluate your question. Is your research question clear? With so much research available on any given topic, research questions must be as clear as possible in order to be effective in helping the writer direct his or her research.
- Is your research question complex? Research questions should not be answerable with a simple "yes" or "no" or by easily-found facts. They should, instead, require both research and analysis on the part of the writer.
- Hypothesize. After you've come up with a question, think about what the path you think the answer will take. Where do you think your research will take you? What kind of argument are you hoping to make/support? What will it mean if your research disputes your planned argument?

Writing an Annotated Bibliography

Adapted from Purdue University's Writing Center <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/1/>

- What is an Annotated Bibliography? A bibliography is a list of sources (books, journals, websites, periodicals, etc.) one has used for researching a topic. Bibliographies are sometimes called "references" or "works cited" depending on the style format you are using. A bibliography usually just includes the bibliographic information (i.e., the author, title, publisher, etc.). An annotation is a summary and/or evaluation of the source.
- Why should I write an annotated bibliography? To learn about your topic. Writing an annotated bibliography is excellent preparation for a research project. Just collecting sources for a bibliography is useful, but when you have to write annotations for each source, you're forced to read each source more carefully. You begin to read more critically instead of just collecting information.

What should be included in an annotation?

Annotations include sentences that

1. Evaluate the authority or background of the author
2. Comment on the intended audience
3. Compare or contrast this work with another you have cited
4. Explain how or why this work is useful to your paper

Example

O'Connor, Francis V. The New Deal Art Projects: An Anthology of Memoirs. Washington D.C.: Smithsonian Institute Press, 1972.

This anthology had a great introduction, which was beneficial and aided me in getting a good perspective of the projects, but the memoirs were focused on just the FAP activity and New York. Since I already had *Art of the Millions*, which held memoirs from artists around the country, I chose to focus on the memoirs in that source. I trusted O'Connor, seeing as his compilations were mentioned in many of my other books. O'Connor comes from a background of being a professor, and he therefore writes very informative overarching introductions and chose good memoirs for his compilations.

Stavenitz, Alexander R. "The Therapy of Art." In *Art for the Millions*, ed. Francis V. O'Connor, 201-203. New York: New York Graphic Society Limited, 1973.

Stavenitz was a Russian immigrant who studied art in NY and St. Louis. He was particularly skilled in graphic arts. He was part of the FAP from 1935-1940, and pursued teaching on multiple occasions. This memoir was very helpful for it aided me in strengthening my argument relating art and therapy. Also, this memoir helped me further develop my arguments about art education. Stavenitz's honesty translated to eloquence in capturing his sentiments.

Scribble Map!!!

With your research project you are expected to complete your Scribble Map.

Follow these steps to complete your Scribble Map:

1. Go to www.scribblemaps.com
2. Click: Create Your Map Now!
3. Click the (x) to exit the pop-up on the screen
4. Using the knowledge on your explorer DRAW, with the scribble tool, the route your explorer took from his home country to the place he explored.
5. To save your map click the menu button in the top left hand corner of the screen
 - a. Fill out the name and description and click ok.
 - b. Your password for your map should be: modernworld
6. You must turn in a printed copy of your map with your research question and annotated bibliography