**English 250**

**Assignment #4: Annotated Bibliography**

Spring 2019

Date Due:

**Before you begin A4,** read the assignment sheet for A5, as these assignments are intricately interconnected. Also, be sure to consult the example formatting provided on the last page of this assignment; your instructor provided this example annotated bib so that you could see proper formatting and following it, not because your instructor enjoys making annotated bibliographies in her free time.

**What is this assignment?**

You will write an annotated bibliography of the sources you intend to use for Assignment #5. If you are working alone, you will include at least four (4) sources. If you are in a group of two people, you will include at least three (3) sources each for a total of at least six (6) sources. If you are working as a pair, you will each turn in your own annotated bibliography to be graded separately and include a note at the top to remind me who your partner is for the A5 paper/project.

Each annotated bib should begin with a 3-4 sentence **foregrounding statement** or idea that situates your reader in the topic you plan to investigate. You should end this statement by posing your research question, which each of the sources you include in the annotated bib will answer. If you are working in a group, you may work on this portion of the assignment together and should include a short note describing the teamwork process that led to the finished product.

Following the foregrounding statement and research question, you will outline the sources you have selected to use in your A5 research project. For each source, do the following:

•Print and annotate the source

•Proper MLA citation

•Brief summary (3-4 sentences) of the source that identifies the author, title of the piece, and publication as well as fairly and fully develops author’s main points and purpose for writing (thesis)

•Explanation (3-4 sentences) that clearly and succinctly outlines how they intend to utilize this source within the context of your A5 paper

•Include one or more quotations from the piece that thoughtfully exemplify the stated purpose of utilizing this source within your essay

Your annotated bibliography is a succinct and clear piece of writing that should be devoid of passive voice, colloquial language, and wordiness.

The audience you will be writing to is an educated person who is interested in the overall topic of your A5 paper but has never read the sources you summarize in your annotated bibliography.

Keep in mind that a good summary of a piece describes the thesis and main points of the piece. It does not include your personal opinion on the topic or judge the merits of the way in which it was composed; save those kinds of observations for your explanation of why you chose this piece or for your documented essay.

**What is the purpose of this assignment?**

The purpose of this assignment is to teach you how to create an effective annotated bibliography, as an annotated bibliography is the foundations of many different types of academic work including research papers, thesis work, and dissertations. In addition, writing an annotated bibliography can help you determine if your A5 essay is set up to be complete and coherent.

**How do I get started writing this assignment?**

*Planning*:First, read each source and then reread it carefully. Print and thoughtfully annotate the source, including underlining important words or key points and making notes in the margins.

*Drafting*: First, consult *Everything’s an Argument* to create the proper MLA citation for this source. The first sentence of the summary must include the name of the piece, name of the author, and thesis of the piece. Summarize and paraphrase the important points within the source. Next, your explanation of why you chose this piece should that clearly and succinctly outlines how you intend to utilize this source within the context of your A5 paper. Finally, one or more quotations from the piece that thoughtfully exemplify the stated purpose of utilizing this source within your essay—make sure you include in-text citations if the source includes page numbers.

*Revising*:Return to the essay to make sure your citation is properly formatted following MLA style. Next, make sure your summary is accurate, is written in your own words, and connects ideas smoothly. Ask yourself these questions:

•Does my summary accurately identify the thesis of the essay and the central points that support the thesis?

•What order will work the best for my summary? (Some authors may repeat themselves, circle around a point, or build up to a point; a summary needs to be succinct, and usually the main idea is placed at the beginning of the summary.)

•Is my summary too long or short? (If your summary is too long, try to eliminate secondary points and reduce wordiness and passive voice. If your summary is too short, explain in more detail a major point.)

Make sure that your explanation clearly and succinctly describes your purpose in selecting this piece. Ensure that the quotes you selected directly address your purpose for selecting this piece. Ask yourself these questions:

•With the information I’ve supplied, could a reader clearly visualize the paper I will create using these sources?

•Do the quotes I’ve selected make sense in the context of my explanation of the source, as well as the summary of the source (taking into account what I’ve identified as the main points of the source?)

•Did I include proper in-text citations for quotations from sources that utilize page numbers?

See the rubric for this assignment in order to ensure you’re accurately responding to each detail of the annotated bibliography. **Because this assignment is meant to be short and concise, you should eliminate all passive voice from writing; passive voice will be graded for this assignment.** Please feel free to ask questions in class or to visit your instructor’s office hours for further assistance with this assignment.

[Name and group info if part of group]

[Short description of your overall project and the directions you plan to explore. End description in your research question, which each of your sources will answer.]

Blakemore, Erin. “Human-Pig Hybrid Created in the Lab—Here Are the Facts.” *National Geographic*, 26 Jan 2017. Web. [https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/01/human-pighybridembryo-chimera-organs-health-science/](https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/01/human-pig-hybrid-embryo-chimera-organs-health-science/) [date accessed].

In “Human-Pig Hybrid Created in the Lab—Here Are the Facts,” published in *National* Geographic in 2017, Erin Blakemore examines new technological advances in the search for the plentitude of organs necessary to accommodate those many individuals awaiting donations on the transplant list, “22 [of whom] die without the organ they need” each day. Blakemore describes the research of Salk Institute’s international team of scientists, which involves creating a hybrid organism known “as a chimera: an organism that contains cells from two different species.” Salk Institute’s practices currently remain in the infant stages, testing on mice and, more recently and more difficultly, fetal pigs. The team hopes, eventually, to grow to term a version of the “human-pig” hybrid capable of carrying organs suitable for human transplant, though the scientific journey to this expectation remains distant with current methods.

I plan to utilize this source to explore current technological advances that might alleviate the burden of organ donor shortage for those awaiting life-saving donations on the transplant list. Utilizing this source, I will explore both scientific and public perceptions of the ethics behind such new and experimental practice as genetically manipulating organisms for the purposes of saving human life. This source offers the example of lab mouse testing, which I plan to explore as a less controversial method of researching advances in science than those involving human DNA. The information in this article will help me understand the basics behind current technological practices and thus explore the reasons public perception of such practices lag in esteem behind perceptions of those scientists responsible for such research.

“Such experiments are currently ineligible for public funding in the United States (so far, the Salk team has relied on private donors for the chimera project). Public opinion, too, has hampered the creation of organisms that are part human, part animal” (Blakemore).

[Surname, first name. “Title in quotations.” *Publication in italics*, date month year. Web. URL.

Date accessed.]

[3-4 sentences. Introduction of text with title, publication, author’s name, and year published. Summary of text highlighting portions useful for your paper. No first person. Use academic language. No passive voice.]

[3-4 sentences. How you plan to utilize the information in this source for your paper. First person permitted. Use academic language. No passive voice.]

[One to two quotations you plan to utilize for your paper. Include proper in-text citation at end of each quote.]

Note: There should not be any brackets on your finished drafts—those are placeholders for information.