

You will research a political, economic, social, environmental, gender, or religious issue utilizing a novel from the following options in addition to outside resources, and a chosen literary criticism. You should thoroughly research each text and major themes prior to committing to that as a topic. Choose something which interests you and with which you are not currently completely familiar.

Text options:

Achebe, Chinua. Things Fall Apart  
Allende, Isabel. The House of the Spirits  
Atwood, Margaret. The Handmaid's Tale  
Dickens, Charles. Great Expectations  
Kogawa, Joy. Obasan  
Pirsig, Robert. Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance  
Rushdie, Salman. Midnight's Children  
Thoreau, Henry David. Walden

Literary Criticism options:

Critical Race Theory  
Ecocriticism  
Feminist Criticism  
Formalism  
Gender Studies and Queer Theory  
Marxist Criticism  
Moral Criticism, Dramatic Construction  
New Historicism, Cultural Studies  
Post-Colonial Criticism  
Postmodern Criticism  
Psychoanalytic Criticism  
Reader-Response Criticism  
Structuralism and Semiotics

Following is a list of requirements:

- ◆ Topic proposal- - a paragraph detailing your intended focus and main points to be illustrated and addressed. The major literary work, criticism, and a supporting nonfiction text need to be listed as the foundation of your research.  
**DUE: FRIDAY, 19 JANUARY. TOPIC APPROVAL IS REQUIRED.**
- ◆ You must have one supporting book (another work by your “focus author”, or a similar text from the same genre or theme), one non-fiction text, eight literary articles, essays, or critiques \* a MAXIMUM of TWO APPROVED websites are allowable\*, and two pieces of art (music, film, drawing, painting, sculpture) selected and organized.
- ◆ Annotated bibliography-- with a minimum of 10 possible resources, (format description and example to follow). Generally 2-3 entries should fit per page.
- ◆ Progress meetings--minimum of two
- ◆ Rough draft
- ◆ Final draft –10-15 pages (excluding references or other addendums)
  - Paper format: Double spaced 12pt Cambria or Times New Roman, 1” margins all around, following all standard MLA format procedures
  - A minimum of eight outside academic resources cited and utilized

We will have rolling due dates, which will determine your individual due dates. Once you commit to a final due date you must follow through with meeting all preceding “progress” due dates in order to fulfill all requirements.

The purpose of this project is to provide you experience with the following:

- ◆ research skills
- ◆ analytical reading and interpretation skills
- ◆ critical thinking
- ◆ deciphering between legitimate/academic resources and those which are not
- ◆ drafting, editing, and revising
- ◆ formulating and formatting an academic work

## WHAT IS AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY?

\* Retrieved from Purdue Online Writing Lab site: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

### Sample MLA Annotation

Lamott, Anne. *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life*. New York: Anchor Books, 1995. Print.

Lamott's book offers honest advice on the nature of a writing life, complete with its insecurities and failures. Taking a humorous approach to the realities of being a writer, the chapters in Lamott's book are wry and anecdotal and offer advice on everything from plot development to jealousy, from perfectionism to struggling with one's own internal critic. In the process, Lamott includes writing exercises designed to be both productive and fun.

Lamott offers sane advice for those struggling with the anxieties of writing, but her main project seems to be offering the reader a reality check regarding writing, publishing, and struggling with one's own imperfect humanity in the process. Rather than a practical handbook to producing and/or publishing, this text is indispensable because of its honest perspective, its down-to-earth humor, and its encouraging approach.

Chapters in this text could easily be included in the curriculum for a writing class. Several of the chapters in Part 1 address the writing process and would serve to generate discussion on students' own drafting and revising processes. Some of the writing exercises would also be appropriate for generating classroom writing exercises. Students should find Lamott's style both engaging and enjoyable.

***Your annotated bibliography should summarize, assess or evaluate a source, and reflect on each source's possible uses for your research and analysis. Also note that this is done in a SINGLE SPACE format.***

JENNINGS AP LITERATURE  
SENIOR RESEARCH PAPER DUE DATE REQUIREMENTS

Step One

Central text completely read with detailed notes including selected citations  
Annotated bibliography for TWO supporting texts  
Schedule meeting one within a week

Step Two

Bibliography cards for all texts  
Annotated bibliography for EIGHT texts

Step Three

Schedule meeting two  
Notes: main & sub points organization, summaries, paraphrases, quotations, and details for focus

Step Four

Detailed outline of all main and sub points- paraphrase main ideas  
Introductions and Conclusions for all major paragraphs/points

Step Five

Rough Draft with Bibliography- Peer Edited by TWO classmates  
Peer Editing Checklist (everyone must edit two peer's essays)

Step Six

FINAL ESSAY hard copy due in class  
Uploaded to turnitin.com by midnight

POINTS: Paper: 300, Annotated Bibliography: 50, Research Meeting: 50, Additional Various Requirements: Points ranging from 25-75

Group One

Step One: 2 March  
Step Two: 16 March  
Step Three: 23 March  
Step Four: 30 March  
Step Five: 6 April  
Step Six: 27 April

Group Two

Step One: 16 March  
Step Two: 30 March  
Step Three: 6 April  
Step Four: 13 April  
Step Five: 20 April  
Step Six: 11 May