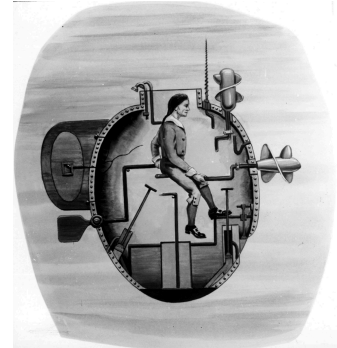
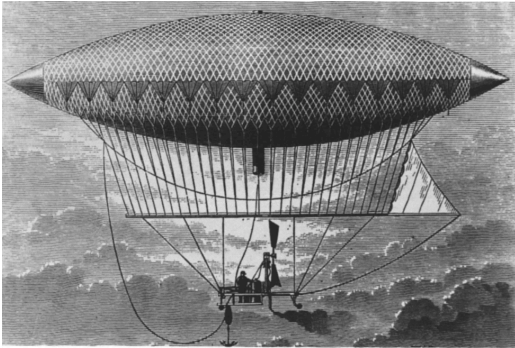


ENG 170: Writing & Rhetoric
Small Assignment III

Proposal & Annotated Bibliography

Preparation for Major Project 1: Contextual Analysis



Learning Outcomes

- Fostering deep curiosity about a specific topic
- Developing a strong research question
- Introduction to more advanced research skills through the Library Data Base
- Creating a research plan
- Developing outlining, paraphrasing & summary skills
- Evaluating sources
- Using sources ethically
- Introduction to MLA citation style
- Designing for an academic audience (genre conventions)

Deliverables

Genre	Description	Due Date	Weighting
Part 1: Proposal 700—800 words	Out of all the Timelines & all the research questions generated by our class, choose one revolutionary object and one research question that piques your curiosity. Explore the possibilities of this research question in greater depth in order to propose a plan for writing a contextual analysis essay about your chosen revolutionary object (major project 1).	Sunday 22 October	10%
Part 2: Annotated Bibliography 150-200 words per annotation	The contextual analysis is a scholarly essay requiring engagement with sources. The annotated bibliography helps identify which sources are useful for exploring your research question. Required—6 sources as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary Sources: Two Peer Reviewed Scholarly Articles from the Library database, and/or one academic ebook • Tertiary Sources: At least two sources for historic context: Reputable magazines (<i>National Geographic</i>, <i>Smithsonian</i>). Or any .GOV website. Plus any other sources you need. Films, TEDTalks & documentaries are permissible.	Sunday 5 November 11:59 pm via Brightspace	10%

Introduction

This first half of the semester we are working toward a major contextual analysis essay on *how revolutionary objects affect our cultural identities and how they act as significant agents of influence and/or change*. In order to build up to this big project we first engaged in collaborative research through Assignment I (the Timeline) to explore the vast range of revolutionary objects, which captivated our attention along specific themes, and the interesting ways they are linked to culture. Through Assignment II (oral presentation) we now have an array of fascinating research questions to help us focus on the impact of those revolutionary objects. Your task now is to choose one of those research questions you find fascinating, and explore it in greater depth in order to fine-tune the question you would like to answer in the *contextual analysis essay.

**The contextual analysis essay seeks to explore how social, political, cultural factors contributed to the development of your chosen object at a specific point in time it, and how subsequently, the object influenced or changed the lives of the people who produced and/or used it.*

In the process of researching in more depth on your topic, you will learn how to write in two different academic genres to expand your “rhetorical toolkit.” Writing with purpose to a specific audience lies at the heart of good communication. For this assignment you are tasked with addressing an **academic audience** to show you can join the scholarly conversation around your chosen object. Two of the standard and recognized genres in scholarship are the Proposal and the Annotated Bibliography.

Library Instruction

Library instruction is an important part of the research process. Our librarian, Kate Bellody, will introduce you to the library database and show you how to navigate it. Library instruction is MANDATORY.

Schedule:

- ENG 170 Section 34: Tuesday 17 October
- ENG 170 Section 12: Thursday 19 October

Part 1: Proposal

The essay proposal is basically a plan or an outline of how you think your essay will develop. It’s purpose is to help your professor help you figure out the best way to approach your essay, and it serves as a guide for you as you move through the process of writing. Naturally, your proposal will change as you do more research and think more critically about the direction of your topic. This is normal. It is important however, to have a base plan so you don’t get lost or disheartened.

The proposal should be 700—800 words. The genre consists of the following:

- Catchy working title for your contextual analysis essay
- Description of the main topic of your essay
- A short section describing why you chose this topic—include facts and relevant connections, and the lens through which you are interested in studying your object.
- A series of different iterations of your research question
- List the items/areas of research you will need to address to help you explore your research. Write about each area, pulling out the key information you will need to help in the exploration process. Note: This is the main part of your proposal.
- Write a short section on where you think/hope your essay will take you after all your research (this helps plan for the conclusion and also helps test the strength and uniqueness of your research question)
- Refine/clarify your research question
- List any areas you feel unsure about—or need help with.

Part 2: Annotated Bibliography

Annotated bibliographies (ABs) are a universal scholarly genre with very specific requirements, which prove you can engage in scholarly conventions (kind of like a right of passage into the scholarly world). It is very easy to make mistakes on the AB and there is nothing that irritates professors more than students who mess up their ABs, so please follow directions carefully!

Part 1: Finding Sources

Finding relevant sources is the hard part because you need to do a lot of searching through the library databases to find connections between ideas. This takes time and patience, however, the more focused your research question, the easier this task becomes.

Required Sources: You need to find at least TWO secondary sources: peer reviewed scholarly articles &/or academic eBooks. At least three tertiary sources: documentaries, TEDTalks, .GOV websites, reputable magazines like *National Geographic & Smithsonian*.

Researching is an exploratory process to find out the connections between ideas
Searching is just looking for facts to answer questions

TIPS FOR RESEARCHING

Keep a research journal to keep track of your sources

For scholarly sources, read the abstracts to find out if the source is worth considering.

<p>Be very clear about how each source can help you explore the research question . You may need sources to help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish context • Verify historic details • Provide supporting evidence • Provide expertize • Challenge the status quo
<p>Choose a variety of sources from different genres: scholarly articles, documentaries/films/speeches or talks, magazine articles , books, reputable websites.</p>
<p>Be conscious of when the sources were published—choose only up to date scholarship unless you have specific reason to do otherwise.</p>
<p>Be highly selective about the sources you choose</p>

Part 2: Critical Reading Worksheets

Once you have selected useful sources, use the “Critical Reading Worksheets” provided to gather essential information. You will use this information to create the summaries for the annotated bibliography.

Part 3: Summaries

Summaries are essentially a bird’s eye view of the text. However, you must focus only on the aspects of the sources that are relevant to your thesis and tailor the summary accordingly. A good summary should include the following information if appropriate:

- The purpose of the source
- Author’s Thesis/research question/study or line of inquiry
- Key information about the author’s work (relevant to your thesis)
- A statement about why this source will be useful for developing your thesis—be very specific here. Do not write statements like: “This source supports my thesis”uuugggh—totally pointless waste of space!
- Summaries need to be 150-200 words

TIPS FOR WRITING GOOD SUMMARIES
<p>Write summaries using your own words. Remember the exercises we did on paraphrasing? It is easy to commit the cardinal sin of plagiarism here so be careful.</p>
<p>DO NOT EVEN CONSIDER COPYING ARTICLE ABSTRACTS FOR YOUR SUMMARIES!!!</p>
<p>Do not use quotations</p>
<p>Refer to the author of the source by their last name consistently throughout the summary</p>

Do not add your opinions on the source or express any of your biases. Stay neutral

Stay true to the author's ideas—don't make assumptions about the subject/topic of the source based on what you know

Keep your language crisp and precise—no room for fluffy descriptive or narrative language here

Part 4: Citations

Citations should be formulated in MLA 9

Use the library citation tool to generate your citations. Copy and paste into the annotated bibliography. All entries go in alphabetical order.

Part 5: Formatting the Annotated Bibliography in MLA

Use the following screen cast tutorial to format the annotated bibliography:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TwkxKaaHXY4&ab_channel=MrJoeMontuori

Follow the instructions carefully.

RUBRICS (coming soon!)