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Bibliographic Annotation Project

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Bibliographic Annotation Project

During the semester, each student will submit 5 annotations for secondary sources related to the course.

Each entry will begin with the bibliographic citation of the text in MLA format. Use hanging indents for the citation and subsequent annotation. This means that the first line starts at the left margin, and after that, each line is indented 4 spaces.

The annotated bibliography should be double-spaced throughout, with no extra spaces between citations. Also, please eliminate the “extra space” between lines when you use the Return key. Please ask me how to fix this, and I will be happy to tell or show you.

Content: Each entry should briefly (1-2 sentences) summarize the critic’s central claim about the text. After this, a brief description of the evidence and reasoning presented by the author should follow (no more than 5 sentences for this project). You may quote and cite bits from the critical text to illustrate your characterization of the reading, but should integrate those quotations into your own sentences, not letting the original critical piece speak for itself. Finally, if possible, note what critical intervention or conversations the author is participating in.

Tags: When you are done putting together the annotation, I’d like you to provide a short list of classificatory tags for the reading which would help guide a person to this entry if they were interested in its central topic(s) or concern(s). They might be concepts like gender transgression, masculinity, transvestitism, literature, or courtly love, names of individuals or texts featured prominently in the reading, a time period or range of years considered in the reading, a geographic or political focus—potential search terms that would make sense in relation to the reading. As a general rule, you may wish to shoot for a minimum of 3 tags for each entry, but will want to generate a fairly comprehensive list, based on your analysis of what research interests might make this reading an attractive text to read.

Narrative: Below the tags section, I’d like you to give a brief (2-3 sentence) account of how you came to this text, as well as the texts cited in the “See Also” part of the assignment. How did you find this reading? Did you use a database? If so, which, and what search term(s) did you use? Did you mine bibliographies or footnotes of another reading? If so, which one(s)? Did you find it next to/near a book in the library stacks? Did you use Google, Google Scholar, or another online source? What search terms did you use? Did you ask a librarian or the course instructor for guidance? If you found a text through a means not discussed in class, how did you determine that the text was appropriate for scholarly research?

See Also: Provide properly-formatted MLA bibliographic citations for two texts which might be of interest to someone who would want to read this text. Frequently (though not always), this might include other texts which came up in the same database search, texts near a book on the shelf, or texts mentioned in the work itself, either in the body of the text, its footnotes, or if included, in the bibliography. These texts will likely bear some close relation or relevance to your tags (if not, you may wish to edit or expand your tags).

Tips (optional): In the course of this project, did you discover any tips or helpful tools you’d like to pass on to your peers for future use? Any good or reliable techniques or resources? Add a useful tip here for good karma, and up to 2pts extra credit if it is a) new (i.e. not included on the online bibliography and b) helpful and specific enough to be included on the welcome ppost of the bibliography.

EXAMPLE:

Doe, Jane (author). "Title of essay or chapter." *Title of Book*. Ed. John Smith (editor's name(s)). Place where Published: Publishing Company, 2005. 47-63 (page numbers of chapter or article in the larger work). Print (or Web, as appropriate).

In the first sentence, you want to directly state as clearly as possible the central claim of the reading. This may in fact take more than one sentence. Here, you provide a brief description of the evidence the author points to back up her claim, and the reasoning which links this reasoning to her conclusions, which will likely take between 2 and 5 sentences. This might include, but should not be limited to, brief direct quotes from the reading, which, if used, **must** be cited at the end of the sentence in MLA parenthetical citation form (refer to formatting reference handout from class). If it is clear that the author is referring or responding to a larger critical conversation, you could mention it here and explain how this essay operates as a response in that conversation. Each annotation is likely to fall between 5 and 10 sentences in length.

Tags: tutorial, annotation, format, demonstration, bibliography, MLA.

Narrative: To find this text, I searched the term "clerical masculinity" in the International Medieval Bibliography. To find the two articles below, I looked at other texts which came up under the same search terms.

See Also:

Neal, Derek. "Masculine Identity in Late Medieval English Society and Culture." *Writing Medieval History*. Ed. Nancy Partner. London: Hodder Arnold, 2005. 171-88. Print.

Arnold, John H. "The Labour of Continence: Masculinity and Clerical Virginitiy." *Medieval Virginities*. Ed. Anke Bernau, Ruth Evans and Sara Salih. Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2003. 102-18.