

INST 1100 – 051

Douglas College – Summer 2019

Research Paper Assignment

Part I – Annotated Bibliography

- Create a thesis statement to explore.
 - o Think about the ideas you are exposed to in class, in the news, and in your own experience in life, and try to narrow your focus to one interaction/phenomena
 - o Try to think about something interesting, ironic, unexpected, important, or even elementary about the topic you choose
 - o Write a statement which explains what you'll explore, what about it you'll explore, what you expect to see based on what you know and what you learn

- Locate six top-notch sources on your topic
 - o Two full-length books from the Douglas College – Coquitlam library, from your own library, or from electronic book resources
 - o Four full-length scholarly journal articles accessible via the Douglas College library website
 - I highly recommend using J-Stor index/database search to discover lots of journal articles on your topic quickly
 - Get creative with search terms – research is an idiosyncratic art form

- Engage in a deep reading of these resources over the course of the term
 - o BUT!!! Be able to summarize these sources and their main ideas rapidly (within a few days or a week of retrieving them)
 - o Take extensive notes on your reading of these sources – this will greatly assist you in organizing your ideas later
 - o Begin preparing your main points for your annotation

- Select one citation method of your preference and write up all your citations and a practical summary of each cited source
 - o You MUST put this summary entirely in your own words
 - o Explain why the resource is important to you and for your argument
 - o Explain the overall argument that the resource makes, generally

- Organize your summaries into an overall document with a brief introduction that explains what you anticipate you'll be saying when you complete the final paper

- Attach a bibliography at the end of the annotations (as well as placing the citation above each paragraph)
- Your final product for this phase of the assignment should be about four pages, double-spaced, normal formatting
- Please include a cover page with the title of your presumed final paper
- **Assignments with spelling errors, grammatical errors, or which are clearly written carelessly will be RETURNED TO THE STUDENT WITH ZERO MARKS**

Part II – Research Paper

- When you receive your annotations back from me, commence working on your final paper
- Your final paper should be at least 2,500 words and no more than 3,000 words.
- Continue with the same reference formatting and bibliography style from your annotations
- Provide a cover page
- Be sure to write your paper with an eye towards the significance of what you're saying - that will assist in staying engaged and sustaining the requisite energy levels to complete the assignment
- This part of the assignment requires you to expand on your initial research to show your own original thinking on the question you've put before yourself

DUE DATES

- Annotated Bibliographies are due on June 17th, 2019
- Final Papers are due on August 2nd, 2019
- Please email your assignments by 11:59pm on those days
- Please email me your assignment at radheshwars@douglascollege.ca