**Annotated Bibliography**

**1**. ***Definition*** – An annotated bibliography is a list of books, articles, and other documents used with comments about each. In form, this list follows the MLA style. Comments indicate both the content of the source and its value to the student’s study.

**2.** ***Purposes*** –

* To acknowledge sources of information that have influenced the student’s perspectives;
* To inform others interested in the topic about the student’s opinions of sources used (i.e., their relevance, accuracy, and quality to his or her study)
* To demonstrate to evaluators the breadth and depth of the student’s inquiry and reflection.
* To demonstrate the nature and reliability of the sources.

**3.** ***Considerations*** – When writing annotations, students should consider the following based upon Currency-Relevance-Author-Accuracy-Purpose (CRAAP):

Currency:

* When was this material published or distributed – i.e., how current is it?

Relevance:

* Who was the intended audience?

Authority:

* What was the background/expertise of the author or authors?
* Is there contact information for the author(s)?

 Accuracy:

* Were there any biases or particular points of view that colored the content?
* Were there any weaknesses – e.g., were sources shown? Does it have an index? Was the organization clear? Was the content readable? etc.
* Is the information supported by evidence?
* Has the information been reviewed?
* Does the language seem free of bias and emotion?

 Purpose:

* What is the purpose of the writing? To inform? To sell? To persuade? To teach? To entertain?
* What was most valuable about the source?

**4. Requirements**

* Must be submitted on a Google document
* Must include correct citation formatting
* Must have accurate website hyperlinks (teachers will be visiting these sites)
* Must include written paragraph annotation below each citation:
	+ thorough summary of the source
	+ Complete CRAAP analysis

**Sample Annotated Bibliography (MLA)**

Ehrenreich, B. (2001). *Nickel and dimed: On (not) getting by in America*. New York: Henry Holt and Company.

In this book of nonfiction based on the journalist's experiential research, Ehrenreich attempts to ascertain whether it is currently possible for an individual to live on a minimum-wage in America. Taking jobs as a waitress, a maid in a cleaning service, and a Walmart sales employee, the author summarizes and reflects on her work, her relationships with fellow workers, and her financial struggles in each situation.

An experienced journalist, Ehrenreich is aware of the limitations of her experiment and the ethical implications of her experiential research tactics and reflects on these issues in the text. The author is forthcoming about her methods and supplements her experiences with scholarly research on her places of employment, the economy, and the rising cost of living in America. Ehrenreich’s project is timely, descriptive, and well-researched.