



Writing the MLA ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

First, what is a BIBLIOGRAPHY ?

A bibliography is another word for a Works Cited page. Most simply, it is a list of sources.

- A list of the works of a specific author.
- A list of items relating to a given subject. [articles, books, websites . . .]

A filmography is a list of motion pictures by an actor, a director, or on a topic.

A discography is a list of musical recordings by a composer, performer or group.

Then, what is an ANNOTATION ?

- An annotation includes descriptive and sometimes evaluative comments on a particular source.
- Annotation is the act or process of adding commentary or notes.

What is the difference between an ANNOTATION and an ABSTRACT ?

- An abstract is a brief factual description of a specific article or book, often written by the author.
- An annotation, however, will reflect the personal judgment and opinion of the person compiling the bibliography. In an annotation, you may compare that work to others you viewed, comment on your rating of that source, criticize or extol the value of the document.

An ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY, therefore, is a listing which contains both the citation information, as well as a critical description of the items selected.

HOW LONG ARE ANNOTATIONS ?

This depends on your assignment. Your instructor will specify the required length of the annotations. Typically, annotations are around 150 words.

To get started:

- Select a topic.
- Select the books, articles or other resources you will write about.
- Read or view the selected items. Take notes on your readings as these will help in writing the annotation. Be careful to not plagiarize an annotation or summary provided with the source citation or read off the cover of a book.
- Arrange the list in alphabetical order by the main entry (usually authors)

Visit the library webpage for additional help in creating annotated bibliographies.

The Impact of Star Trek: An Annotated Bibliography

Andreadis, Athena. *To Seek out New Life: The Biology of Star Trek*. New York: Crown, 1998. Print. The mission of Star Trek Enterprise was to seek out new life.

Harvard biologist Andreadis takes on the various life forms covered in the series and examines the physiology, psychology, and sociology of the now familiar Vulcans, Klingons, androids and shapeshifters.

Consalvo, Mia. "Borg Babes, Drones, and the Collective: Reading Gender and the Body in Star Trek." *Women's Studies in Communication* 27.2 (2004): 177-203.

OmniFile Full Text Mega. Web. 23 Sept. 2009. While Trek mythos writers tried to downplay stereotypes, Consalvo examines how well they succeeded by looking at female representation in the cyborg world. Consalvo examines implications for our medical technology and societal impact using Individualism vs. the hive, sexuality vs. androgyny, and Seven of Nine vs. the Queen.

Evangelista, Benny. "Trek Tech: 40 Years since the Enterprise's Inception, Some of Its Science Fiction Gadgets Are Part of Everyday Life." *SFGate*. San Francisco Chronicle, 15 Mar. 2004. Web. 23 Sept. 2009. Early episodes of *Star Trek* had an incredible impact on future engineers, scientists and technologists, inspiring them to create the devices we now take for granted such as MP3 players, flat screen plasma monitors, communication devices and accessible computer technology in all aspects of our daily lives.

Porter, Jennifer E. and Darcee L. McLaren, eds. *Star Trek and Sacred Ground: Explorations of Star Trek, Religion, and American Culture*. Albany: State U of New York P, 1999. Print. Early *Star Trek* downplayed the role of religion in the future. Later series, particularly *Deep Space Nine* and *Voyager*, fully embraced religious diversity, gently exploring the culture of both human and various alien races, their views on life and death, immortality, spiritualities, and scriptures. *Star Trek* not only envisioned alien mythologies but became a mythology itself.