Engl 100W Fall 2016 **Annotated Bibliography + (brief) research proposal**

**Overview:** An annotated bibliography helps you or another researcher to assess sources and judge how they will fit into a particular project. The annotation itself is usually a paragraph (though often more) written for each source to summarize and usually also evaluate the source. This kind of bibliography can vary in length from a few pages to book-length. **Due Date:** Mon 10/31

**Procedure:**

**Research Proposal**: The opening section is essentially an expanded topic proposal meant to help me judge your sources and assess your progress so far. Identify your topic, your focus, your thesis question and a tentative answer to it (working thesis), and your specific audience and forum. I really want you to think beyond the classroom for this, even though it will be cited formally, as that is one skill this class is supposed to give you.

This proposal section should be **one or two paragraphs** at the beginning of your annotated bibliography. Use full sentences. Below this, put abulleted list for the research questions that your research will answer. Below that, list the sources alphabetically, each with its annotation directly below it.

**Annotations:** Starting with the sources on your working bibliography, read the sources to determine if they will be useful for your paper—that is, if they answer your focused research questions and if they seem credible and relevant. You need a total of **5 annotated sources**. Don’t feel obliged to stick with the working bib. sources. You might need to find better ones, especially if you have refined your topic.

For EACH source, write a sentence or two of **summary**, giving the central argument (thesis) and/or main informative claims of each. Next, if appropriate, write a sentence or two of **evaluation**, **assessing the credibility** of the source as you see it. This is most important with secondary sources that are making an argument about interpretation or offering information that isn’t widely known. Finally, tell me briefly **how this source fits into your project**.

Examples: “This source offers background information about the scanty education available to London’s poor in the time of *Pygmalion*, which helps answer my question about what opportunities Eliza might have had before Higgins,” or “This source offers details about a recent Chicago production of *Pygmalion*, commenting especially on the implications of casting an Indian actress as Eliza. This offers a further example of how contemporary directors are expanding the play’s relevance to other marginalized groups, not just Edwardian London’s underclass.”)

**Details**:

* The requirements for the sources are the same as for the working bibliography, except for the annotated one you need only 5 sources, your *best* five.
* Do not include the major primary sources, such as the main play(s), poem(s), or story (or stories) you are providing context for. You can include primary sources such as letters, introductions, interviews and commentary by the writer(s) you are examining.
* Total length of the project should be around 1250 words. Please try to hit very close to that target.

For details on how to use MLA format for both kinds of bib., go to these pages: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/> (MLA in general and bib. format) <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01/> (for annotated)