WRIT 101 s12 Edis Kittrell

Paper Four: Annotated Bibliography and

Paper Five: Research Paper

The goal of this research assignment is to give your brain and your writing abilities a workout in a format which will be a regular part of your academic experience. You will strengthen your ability to develop and organize a significant body of information for the purpose of informing the reader. Importantly, you will also correctly research, evaluate, integrate, and document sources. In addition, you will eventually publish your paper by contributing on-line to Wikipedia.

FOCUS: Producing an academic writing eventually published on Wikipedia, *i.e.*, one that is informative, written in a neutral voice, well researched, and documented correctly.

TOPIC: Topic choices are fairly wide open. You will be given a choice of "stubs," or incomplete Wikipedia articles, which you will then make more complete. Alternatively, you might start a page completely on your own, subject to approval. You can also choose to work with group mates for research purposes, but you will each be writing your own paper *and meet paper length guidelines individually*; in other words, you might all research one topic, but write a different component of the final article. For example, a Wikipedia article entitled "Music and Politics" may have multiple subtitles of "Folk Music," "Hip Hop," "Rock Music," "Racist Music," etc. Each group member would pick one part of the article to write. You may share research materials.

TYPES OF SOURCES: One of the important aspects of this assignment will be the research. We will be learning to use the library's academic databases. Your research should include three different types of sources: one from an academic journal (such as *The Journal of Applied Psychology*), one popular magazine (such as *Rolling Stone* or *Atlantic Monthly*), and one from the web, which will need to be **evaluated closely for reliability and be approved by me**. You might find, however, that only academic journal articles are available on your topic, or only popular magazines. There is some flexibility in this requirement, but all is subject to approval. Carefully evaluate all sources before deciding whether or not to use them. Use the checklist on pages 205-207 of *Writing and Revising* for evaluation. *Be sure to print out and annotate all sources*; you will be required to hand them in with your final copy in order to receive a grade.

Effective use of sources involves clear, accurate restatement of the sources, with correct documentation in the form of in-line citation, just as you have been doing all semester. Summarize and paraphrase. Use direct quotes sparingly. Ultimately, be sure you respect your audience; cover all relevant aspects of your topic, and be careful not to distort or suppress information. You want to have confidence in the truth of your conclusions, and your audience should find your essay credible. We will follow Wikipedia guidelines, which follow closely with academic writing in general. For a link on use of sources on Wikipedia, look at the section "when and why to cite sources": http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citing_sources.

LENGTH: The essay should thoroughly, yet concisely, cover one topic and be between 750 and 1000 words (not including a Work Cited page). Do not include the words of the existing stub in your word count total. (On all your drafts, be sure the original words from the stub are highlighted to indicate what writing is *not* yours.)

DOCUMENTATION: Remember to use MLA documentation systems *consistently* throughout your paper. We will be following strict guidelines in order to avoid plagiarism. Include url addresses on your work cited entries as appropriate.

For information in Wikipedia's style of writing—as well as a nifty grammar/mechanics manual, see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Manual_of_Style. Once again, these rules are the same as what we use in academic writing; however, Wikipedia takes it another step to code for publication. In either case, whether for academic writing or for Wikipedia, consistent and accurate in-line parenthetical citations must be used. Be sure to keep close track of document information and include URLs on your work cited page.

Schedule (it is imperative that you follow directions closely and keep up with this schedule):

Thursday, March 22: What is Wikipedia? Wikipedia Campus Ambassador Mike introduces Wikipedia and discusses the importance of the central tenets: neutral, verifiable, etc.

Day 1: Wikipedia. Here Mike introduces the important aspects of Wikipedia. Some efforts to assuage students' concern about the novelty of the assignment. At this point, we should show pre- and post-stub to help students visualize what they'll be accomplishing in the assignment.

Tuesday March 27: Important note: Class meets in the Renne Library instructional room. (Go past the circulation desk and down the stairs, which are to the right. The classroom is downstairs, and again, to the right.) It is imperative that you attend class this day: do not miss it. To prepare for the library day, read over the list of possible "stubs" and chose two to three topics you'd like to research: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:
WikiProject Stub sorting/List of stubs>

For homework, write one paragraph (typed, double space) stating your preferred stubs and the reasons you are interested in those topics. In addition, read pages 204-207 in *Writing and Revising* on evaluating sources. During the library session, we

Day 2: Information. Students attend class in computer lab in library; instruction session held by librarian who reviews how to find scholarly and popular information on a topic. Students practice searching multiple subscription and open source databases and engines. Students learn how to broaden searches (see Figure 1). If not enough information is available on particular stub topic, students begin researching back-up stubs.

will determine which of your choices works best, based on research-ability and notability.

Thursday March 29: Find at least three sources on your topic (see "Types of Sources" above); ideally, you will have accomplished this task during our library time on Tuesday. Read over your articles for a good, overall understanding. Bring the complete printouts to class (yes, even if they are 25 pages long). Be prepared to discuss your articles in class. (No written responses are necessary at this point.)

Tuesday April 3: Download, read, and annotate the three articles on the D2L calendar for today ("Librarian Perception of Wikipedia," "Wikipedia's Benevolent Dictator," and "Weighing Wikipedia."

You **do not** need to write a response, but be prepared to discuss ideas in class (there may be a quiz).

Thursday April 5: Due: Paper Four: Annotated Bibliography. First, read and annotate your sources carefully. Then, see the following link for an explanation and example of an Annotated Bibliography: http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/writersref6e/lmcontent/ch07/PDF/Hacker-Orlov-MLA-Biblio.pdf. (This link can also be accessed on D2L under "Content"---"Links.") Also see pages 213-214 in our handbooks for partial examples.

As we demonstrated in class, an "Annotated Bibliography" is simply a normal Works Cited page with an additional paragraph under *each* entry. The paragraph should include a *brief* summary as well as a sentence or two explaining how you think you may be using the source. This should be a list of the sources you will be using for Paper Five. This list is not set in stone, however; certainly, you may find additional sources, or even eliminate one of the sources as you see fit.

Note bene: Make your Writing Center appointment *now*: estimate when you might want to visit the Writing Center and call and set up the appointment (406-994-5315). Remember, the dorm tutors are usually too busy to give you a full half hour this time of year.

Tuesday April 10: Due: Completed worksheet (download from D2L).

Thursday April 12: *Class meets in the library again*. Due: One section of your paper in which you synthesize at least two separate outside sources (a paragraph or two). In other words, pick one subtitle from your worksheet on which to write. Write the entire section, including in-line citations and work cited entries. Instead of a hard copy, bring your paragraph to

Day 3: Mark up. Today students sign up for accounts and upload their paragraph to their sandboxes. They learn basic markup (see Figure 2), as well as how to use the citation tool.

the library classroom in electronic form (either on a thumb drive, on a laptop, or saved electronically in a reliable manner such as on the "locker" in D2L). **Do not miss class today**; we will be setting up Wikipedia accounts and learning how to begin the publishing process.

Note bene: Sometime between now and when the paper is due, conference with me over your paper. I will be bringing a sign-up sheet for conference times to class. Conferences will take place in my office (2-194 Wilson, phone 994-4513). Bring hard copies of *all* your sources as well as your latest draft, whether in electronic form or hard copy. You are required to meet with me one-on-one at least one time before the last day of class.

Tuesday April 17: Due: Read and annotate Chapter 4, pages 41-59 *and* Chapter 11, pages 204-218 of *Writing and Revising*). Be prepared to use these ideas in class (no need for a written response).

Thursday April 19: Rough Draft workshop, Paper Five. Bring one hard copy of your paper to class, including a works cited page, typed and double spaced (*not* an electronic copy).

Tuesday April 24: "Writing Day": Using the information received during the rough draft workshop, revise your paper. Use this time to conference with me, get additional feedback from group mates, visit the Writing Center, do more research, etc (no class).

Thursday April 26: Last day of class. Due: Final draft Paper Five. *Class meets in the library again*. Bring your final drafts in electronic form (either on a thumb drive, on a laptop, or saved electronically in a reliable manner such as on the "locker" in D2L). No late papers accepted after class time. Be sure to bring the responses from the rough draft workshop, annotated *hard* copies of all researched, outside sources (please indicate if you want to have them back), a Writing Center blue sheet if applicable, and the Grading Rubric. Last day for handing in extra credit

Day 4: Stub Expansion. Students upload their entire essay to their sandbox and format citations. New articles are moved, other articles are copied/pasted, other content is simply added to original stub. Troubleshoot with special cases including images, infoboxes, and other Wikipedia nuances.

assignments, as well. We will be moving final papers into main-space, printing final articles, taking a survey, and doing final evaluations for the class.

Finals week: Monday April 30, noon to 2 pm; Tuesday May 1, 2 to 4 pm; and Thursday, May 3, noon to 2: I will be in my office during these Final Exam times to answer any questions. Grades should be posted on D2L by Thursday, May 3, at noon.

Have a great summer!!!