Part 7. Annotated Bibliography Sample Used in First-Year Composition Classes

Use the following as a model for your own annotated bibliography required with Paper 3. The annotated bibliography will be due during our conference along with your paper draft. A final will also be due on April 2 with the final of the paper. To find out how to correctly format your sources in MLA style, refer to class notes and exercises on this topic, or use the “MLA Documentation” section of Everyday Writer, the chapter in our text, or the link to the Style Guides on Carrier Library’s home page.

Notice in the sample that a heading is needed: Annotated Bibliography. Also, the sources are in alphabetical order. Summaries should be concise but specific, about a paragraph long.

Annotated Bibliography


Berry looks at three areas of the United States that were once known for their natural beauty--the Northeast, the South, and the West--and tells in detail how once dramatically unique features are being literally replaced by look alike strips
and hamburger franchises. Commercialism and consumerism have eclipsed nature in Berry’s view. [This is an online source.]


Johnson argues that major celebrities like Marlon Brando, Marilyn Monroe, Frank Sinatra, Paul Newman would rather have died than endorse products. Today, there seems to be a divide with some "serious" celebrities, like Tom Cruise and Madonna still refusing to endorse products but practically all others from Jerry Seinfeld to Spike Lee now lending their names to products. Her major point is that such rampant endorsement naturalizes materialism and consumerism. [This is a scholarly journal.]


Postman focuses on the media and demonstrates how material-laden lifestyles pervade the screens, big and small, and pages of media that saturate us. Images of things create desire and feelings of inadequacy if we haven't the
means to get these things. Destruction of natural areas, especially in third world countries, is needed to produce materials for these things. [This is a book.]