

MWA #3 Sequence: Literary Analysis/Apocalyptic Survival Plan Report

Peer and IA Draft Due: Monday, April 28th

Instructor Draft Due: Wednesday, May 14th by 11:59 pm NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

PLEASE NOTE: We will spend the last third of the semester on this project. You will be responsible for posting research questions, thesis statement, works cited, and an annotated bibliography (see instructions starting on page 4). Be sure to check out the "Research Website Instructions" for how this should look. In short, you will have a series of research-related assignments that will help you prepare for this longer paper.

Rhetorical Situation: *You are a writer for a literary journal that has apocalyptic/dystopian literature as its genre. Your editor has asked you to create an academic essay on one of two topics, and you must include a multimodal element (of your choosing) that helps advance your argument. Both options will be published as a blog, so you must carefully consider the best way to present your text, and your multimodal element. You may choose which topic you want from the following list:*

1. A well-researched literary analysis of an apocalyptic/dystopian text of your choice. For this assignment, you should select a "text" to write about: it can be any form of entertainment, whether novel, film, comic book or narrative video game. You will create your own research questions which will guide your topic and thesis. You will be required to use at least 1 primary and 3 secondary sources.

Genre and Format: This is an academic research paper, and you should strive for a formal tone throughout. Your paper should be a minimum of 2000 words. It should have a concise thesis which answers your research question, an introduction where you describe the subject and its time period, your analysis, and a conclusion. Your paper should be appropriately formatted to MLA specifications and be free of errors in spelling, grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. However, because this will appear in a literary journal's blog, the editor has asked that you include multimodal elements that are relevant to your discussion. She has left the choice of multimodal element up to you. Thus, you must carefully consider your audience. How can you best convey your information? Ideas include a video of images from the work or artistic representations of the work.

2. A well-researched scientific report that discusses an apocalyptic/dystopian survival plan. This option requires outside research of at least 1 primary and 3 secondary sources (both literary and academic). Your report must state your survival plan and be supported by evidence from literature and scholarly research.

Genre and Format: This is an academic research paper, and you should strive for a formal tone throughout. Your paper should be a minimum of 2000 words. It should have a concise thesis that states why a survival plan is necessary, followed by your in-depth discussion of the plan, supported by your research, and a conclusion. Your paper should be appropriately formatted to MLA specifications and be free of errors in spelling, grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. In addition, the editor has asked you to create a secondary work based on your research that will provide readers with an interactive element. She has left the final decision up to you, but has suggested a PSA (Public Service Announcement), billboard, or comic as possibilities.

Helpful Hints and Guidelines for all Options:

1. You will use your Google site to archive your research process.

2. Be sure to check out the tutorials page for helpful hints on the software you might need for your multimodal element.
3. We will have a series of discussions/blog posts/questions where we will discuss how to choose an effective multimodal element.
4. You must include outside research of at least 1 primary and 3 academic sources. These must NOT be reviews written by others. You may use any of the secondary scholarship that we have used in this class, or that you have gathered from previous assignments.
5. Use MLA style for your citations. If you are creating a blog, include your works cited at the end, but include parenthetical citations throughout. Please see the links to the Purdue OWL or the MLA “Cheat Sheet” located on Learn. If you create a video, include a list of works cited at the end.
6. Be sure to provide citations for all images, video, or audio that you include which are not your own.
7. Be sure that your multimodal element (pictures, video, audio, etc.) compliment your final paper.
8. Be sure to choose a subject with which you are familiar. For example, if you are using *The Hunger Games* the book as your primary text, you need to have read the book.
9. If you record a video (or audio recording) to supplement your paper, it should be no longer than 5 minutes.
10. Remember that we use a broad definition of text for our class. You can choose a book, a movie, an album by a band, a graphic novel, or a video game, just to name a few.
11. We will be working on research questions, thesis development, research, structure of the two assignments, and other related elements during our discussions and journals.

Reflection

- You will include a reflection which discusses the rhetorical choices you made in creating your multimodal element as well as respond to the course outcomes. As you create your reflection and discuss your progress on the course outcomes, keep in mind the following questions:
 - Why did you choose the option that you created? Who did you hope to reach by creating this work?
 - Why did you choose the mode that you are using?
 - How does the chosen mode add to the purpose, topic, and angle of your work?
 - Who is your audience?
 - What does your audience expect from this kind of paper?
 - How have you attempted to meet the needs and expectations of your audience?
 - How did the awareness of the rhetorical situation influence your writing process?
 - How have you met the course outcomes for this course?

Project 3 Rubric – Literary Analysis Option (250 points)

Poss.	Criteria
20	Thesis. Student's thesis statement is interpretive, interesting, and answers the question completely and concisely.
25	Introduction. Student's introduction identifies the text they are working with and gives its background. It also presents a targeted summary of the text that focuses only on the events or features that play a key role in their analysis.
60	Analysis. Student has used their own interpretation as well as the arguments of others to support their thesis.
25	Conclusion. Student's conclusion helps their reader understand the text being analyzed and the writer's position in the discussion of apocalyptic/dystopian literature.
20	Works Cited. The student's works cited page is correctly formatted and includes a minimum of four sources which meet the specifications outlined in the prompt.
20	Format: Assignment is appropriately formatted in standard MLA, is at least 2000 words.
30	Multimodal – Student has chosen multimodal elements which enhance the purpose, topic, and angle of the paper. Choices are clear based on the reflective essay.
50	Reflective Essay

Project 3 Research Report Option (250 points)

Poss.	Criteria
20	Thesis. Student's thesis statement is interpretive, interesting, and answers the question completely and concisely.
25	Introduction. Student's introduction identifies the need for a survival plan and a brief synopsis of their plan.
60	Analysis. Student has used primary and secondary sources when constructing their plan. They have created logical steps for action and support those plans with information from their research.
25	Conclusion. Student's conclusion restates the importance of the plan and why their plan should be adopted.
20	Works Cited. The student's works cited page is correctly formatted and includes a minimum of four sources which meet the specifications outlined in the prompt.
20	Format: Assignment is appropriately formatted in standard MLA, is at least 2000 words, not including the works cited.
30	Multimodal – Writer has included a multimodal element as asked for. Writer has given consideration to their topic, angle, and purpose in the creation of their multimodal assignment and this is evident from their reflection.
50	Reflective Essay

Thesis Statement and List of Sources

Due: Sunday, April 20th

For this assignment you will prepare a thesis statement and a works cited of at least 4 sources. You should have at least 1 primary and 3 secondary sources, at a minimum, you can always have more. You will prepare these sources in proper MLA format. Note: You do not have to use all of these sources in your final paper. You may change your sources as you research/write. This paper is worth 50 points

Annotated Bibliography

Due: Friday, April 25th

For this assignment you will prepare an annotated bibliography that contains the works you are using for your final Major Writing Assignment.

Your paper will begin with a short preface describing your final MWA topic, thesis statement/purpose and a brief synopsis of the kinds of sources your annotated bibliography includes. You will then begin your annotated bibliography with **at least 4 sources (one should be your primary text)** and the annotation (of no more than 150 words each) for each entry. This of course means you need to have read (or viewed) them. This should be 2-3 pages in length. See instructions below for a description of an annotated bibliography and notes on formatting.

Preface to Annotated Bibliography:

Additionally, the annotations should be preceded by a preface that includes the following: a contextual overview that shows the purpose of the bibliography and suggests its value and significance for the reader, the research question posed by the author, the dates during which the bibliography was compiled, an overview of the number of items in the bibliography and kinds of material included.

Format for Annotated Bibliography (See “What is an Annotated Bibliography” below)

- The document must be double spaced, 12 point TNR with 1” margins. There should be the usual header on the left hand side of the first page.
- Begin with your preface.
- Your sources should then be listed alphabetically by author’s last name and follow MLA formatting standards.
- After each source you will provide your annotated paragraph about the source with a one inch indent for the first line. See samples on Blackboard Learn.
- You must include a MINIMUM of 5 sources, one of which should be the medievalist text that you are comparing.

This assignment is worth 100 points, You will be graded on the following criteria:

- Format of Annotated bibliography including the preface.

- Annotations are brief but to the point.
- Format – this is one of those assignments where format counts for a lot.

What is an “Annotated Bibliography”?

As researchers collect information, they compile lists of relevant sources and make notes about said sources in order to evaluate and remember their content and often to share this information with other interested researchers. Each entry in an Annotated Bibliography should contain the following:

- Complete bibliographic citation in MLA format.
- A brief annotation, which includes
 - The thesis or main idea of the source
 - A concise summary of the source
 - Any limitations of the source
 - How the information will relate to your thesis or hypothesis.

Note: It is alright if you end up using some different sources in the actual MWA assignment; good researchers often find more relevant sources as their ideas change. This assignment serves to get you searching and evaluating relevant sources.

These sources should be a mixture of library and credible internet sources. Additionally, they should be credible (newspapers, scholarly journals, etc.) and somehow offer background or supportive information to your final paper. Remember, if you annotate a substantial source such as a website or a book, you need to provide an overview of the source’s contents, but your summary can be limited to the part or parts relevant to your project. However, you must clarify within the annotation that you are only using that specific information and thus it may not reflect the entire contents of the source.