Annotated Bibliography Prep: “Search Party” Video

It’s time to take another typically solitary research activity and take a moment to share it with your learning community peers, then share it with others.

Search Together

Let’s get this straight: what you are really starting to do is to build your annotated bibliography. But, in order to highlight the process involved in building this, you are asked to do some of this together and provide a video record of this activity.

Self-organize into groups of three (3) or more and arrange to do some of your literature search together. You will all be doing some of this alone as well, so take this opportunity of being together to look over each other’s shoulder, compare notes, and share the overall experience.

Performing a thorough and mindful literature search, whether alone or together, is the crux of the assignment. The actual submission (on the right) only serves as an artifact of this work, representing a fraction of the time involved.

Overall, you will want to do the following:

1. Start searching any and all possible sources for references that are relevant to your area of interest (yes, your mentor is a great “shortcut,” but don’t rely entirely on them either).
2. Record the results of your search for later potential inclusion in your annotated bibliography.
3. Start acquiring/reading the most compelling results in preparation for writing something up about them in your annotated bibliography.

Note that this week should represent the beginning of your search journey, and not the end. Your actual search journey should continue through the completion of the annotated bibliography on the week of October 13.

What to Record and Share

Record, edit, and upload a video of your group containing at least the following:

- Each individual member of the group should describe what they searched for during the communal session, particularly the topic to search and words or terms used in their search queries.
- Each member then assesses how successful their searches were: Was anything relevant found? What kinds of terms worked better than others? Did the search lead to full text or is an extra trip to the library needed?
- Capture a few minutes’ worth of your group discussing each others’ experiences and providing reactions to them, such as constructive suggestions or affirmation/reinforcement of the experience.

Each individual segment should last between 45–90 seconds, with the group session going for around three minutes. As stated on the left, the video isn’t meant to be the full work product, but just a little snapshot of your search experience.

The video doesn’t have to be too polished or spruced up, but if you have the time and interest to give it some pizzazz, then feel free.

Submission

Even though there will be only one video per group, for consistency, please submit the same link to Brightspace as individuals. This way, everyone is equally accountable for the submission, and will not need to rely on another group mate to turn something in on time.

Reading (for next week)

Read The Craft of Research Chapter 7 “Making Good Arguments: An Overview” and Chapter 8 “Making Claims” by next week (week of October 6).