

Unbibliography [Expanded Prompt] (4 points¹)

What is this project about?

The Unbibliography is designed to encourage and reward you for examining more sources than you need to include in your Annotated Bibliography. It is a record of the research process and a way for you to reflect on the productiveness of “failure.” Completing the Unbibliography will enable you to select the best sources out of a list of possibilities that you have developed rather than settling for those sources you encounter first.

Specifically, the Unbibliography is built on the Rule of Three: for a successful and robust research project, you should examine three times as many sources as you will actually use. Because the Annotated Bibliography requires five sources, you should examine fifteen; the ten that you decide not to include in the Annotated Bibliography will make up the basis of the Unbibliography.

What should be included?

- A list of ten sources you examined but ultimately rejected. At least three of these rejected sources must be scholarly. Each entry should have two parts:
 - A citation in MLA format
 - A brief annotation (75-125 words) describing two things:
 - Why you thought you might use the source
 - Why you ultimately decided not to include it in the Annotated Bibliography
- A 250-500 word reflection on how this assignment shaped your thinking about your Annotated Bibliography.

When is this assignment due?

The Unbibliography must be turned in on the same day as your Annotated Bibliography.

What should this assignment look like?

- Each citation should be followed by its annotation. Please see the example in Blackboard to visualize the proper formatting.
- The Unbibliography should be in alphabetical order.
- Use Calibri (this font) OR Times New Roman OR Ariel, 12 pt. font.
- Double-spaced and use one-inch margins.
- Include your name and the date of submission in the top left-hand corner.

¹ My grading policy states that completing all required work in the manner in which it was assigned will earn the student a B (84). The Unbibliography is one of several optional assignments that students can complete to raise their grade to an A (94).

How will this assignment be evaluated?

In general, I will be looking for the following criteria when assessing your Unbibliography:

- **Clear, appropriate prose where applicable.** Does your writing make sense? Does it have a professional tone?
- **Consistent and useful citations.** Do your citations indicate who created the source, what they called it, and how it was distributed? Have you followed MLA guidelines for citations to the best of your ability?
- **Clear and complete annotations.** Have you explained what caught your attention about each source? Have you articulated why you ultimately decided to reject each source?
- **A thoughtful reflection.** Do your thoughts on the creation of the Unbibliography reflect growth in your understanding of the research process?