

English 2273 - Winter 2005
Hypermedia Project
ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY
Due: Wednesday, March 16

The annotated bibliography is one of the most important, because it is one of the most useful, forms of writing and of intellectual record-keeping you can practice. As you read, you need to keep a record of what you've read (this is the bibliography part) and the contents and significance of what you've read (this is where the annotation comes in).

Step One: Use the MLA Bibliography and . . . to collect a number of items devoted to your author and to his or her poetry. You may find items devoted to discussion of your particular poem, but you might not. Do not let yourself be stymied by the failure to find work on your particular poem. Find what you can, and make the best of that.

Step Two: Compile an initial bibliography of the material you find by completing Step One.

Step Three: Collect this material (from the Vaughan, from on-line d-bases, through ILL).

Step Four: Skim through the books and articles you have collected, paying closest attention to the notes and bibliographies. Add any relevant new material to your initial list.

Step Five: Read the books and articles, and take notes as you read. When you come across references to new material likely to be relevant, be sure to track it down. It is especially important to read items mentioned in two or more of the sources you read. When you finish each item, summarise your notes in such a way as to make it obvious whether or not the item will aid you in writing your term paper.¹ Your summary should also include the important points stressed in the item you've read.

¹ *Nota bene*: In order to save you from duplicating your labour later, be sure to annotate even those sources that do not seem relevant for your present project. This serves a triple purpose: 1) it saves duplication, 2) it records the salient points of each article for possible future use on another occasion, and 3) in the present circumstance it counts toward your hypermedia project.