

**Project Proposal/Annotated Bibliography**  
**Complete Draft for Peer Review (February 10)**  
**Final Submission: (February 15)**  
**5% of Final Course Grade**

Imagine that you are applying for research funding from Canada's Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). The grant committee, made up of experts from the field of affective studies, is only able to fund one out of every five proposals submitted. The committee is looking for three elements in a successful proposal. The application must:

- 1) Demonstrate the author's expertise in the academic literature on the topic (which is well defined and manageable for a paper that will end up being 1250-1500 words).
- 2) Show how the project will make a fresh contribution to the literature that both advances scholarship *and* has wider public benefits.
- 3) Be elegantly written and show mastery of the conventions of MLA style.

The application is divided into two parts: **the proposal** and **the annotated bibliography**.

The proposal provides the committee with an overview of your topic, the research questions you will be asking, and how you expect that your paper will advance scholarship and the public good. It should also contain your working hypothesis, which your research will be testing. **To demonstrate your expertise, you should reference at least two of your sources in the proposal section.** The proposal section of the application should not be longer than 350 words. Brevity is everything. Make every sentence count!

The proposal should grab the jury's attention with the significance of your topic, the pertinence of your research questions, and your clear answer to the "so what" question. That is, why should the committee care about your project? Remember, the committee receives thousands of applications each year. They don't have a lot of time to go through each one. You need to make your own stand out.

Following the proposal, you will include your annotated bibliography. The bibliography must include at least **three peer-reviewed sources (academic articles or books; not book reviews)**. The source must come from **at least two academic disciplines** such as psychology, psychoanalysis, philosophy, history, or sociology. (Note the discipline in your annotation). You may also include up to two additional non-peer reviewed sources to help provide context and conflict for your project. Unless there is a compelling reason, your sources should have been published since the year **2000** to reflect up to date research in the field. The annotations should let us the jury know the source's principal argument, research methods, and most importantly, how you plan to use it in your project (context, evidence, counterargument, etc.). Each annotation should be a brief paragraph

(apx. 75-125 words). **They must be in your own words; not copied from abstracts or the source itself.** Complete the bibliography in MLA style.

Please note that you will be adding and subtracting sources throughout the semester. This will **not** be the final bibliography for your project.

SSHRC EVALUATION RUBRIC /10

<b>PROPOSAL:</b> Outlines manageable research topic for first essay /Quality of well-informed research questions/ Integrates two citations/Demonstration of topic's academic and public relevance	<b>5</b>
<b>ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY:</b> Three academic sources published post-2000; Quality of Annotations/Relevance of Sources to your project explained/At least two disciplines included	<b>3</b>
<b>MLA FORMAT and QUALITY OF WRITING</b> (please note that quality of writing is also implicit in the other sections; if your ideas aren't clearly explained, the reader won't be able to follow your points.)	<b>2</b>