

2018-19 Alternate Assignment to Freshman Paper

Purpose: The goal of this project is to have RCHS students find and use detailed and reliable information from multiple sources to help them form a conclusion or create a recommendation about an issue related to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. You may choose any presentation format you wish, such as a **professional tri-fold poster, a powerpoint, documentary, podcast, or any other format you get approved by the teacher.**

Requirements: While the topic of the project is to be formulated by you, the student, and can look at the Chesapeake Bay watershed region through whatever lenses you choose, there are some things that must be the same for each project.

1. **Length:** Whatever form your presentation takes, the time used to present must take between 10-15 minutes. 10 is the bare minimum for a passing grade; anything less than 10 will not be accepted.
2. **Sources:** 6 sources:
State of the Bay Report (<http://www.cbf.org/about-the-bay/state-of-the-bay-report/>), 1 multimedia source (video, podcast, song, etc), 1 expert interview, 1 peer-reviewed article (Google Scholar <https://scholar.google.com/>), 1 periodical (newspaper, magazine, etc), and the remaining one can be from whichever of the above listed categories you choose.
3. **Citations:** You must include a works cited section of your project (**a small section of your poster, the last slide of your powerpoint, credits at the end of a film or podcast, etc.**) You must **also include your annotated bibliography.** Projects without works cited and/or a bibliography will be considered plagiarized, and will not be accepted.

Procedure: Students will create a Google drive folder titled “(your last name)_freshman paper”, and a working document in that folder. Students will work on the paper over the next two marking periods, and will **turn in their work by submitting a link to their document through a Google form.** FORM IS HERE: <https://goo.gl/forms/vdtUQXyd5rS3p4uc2>

The paper will be broken up into several tasks, with deadlines:

Nov 30/Dec 3	Folder, working document, and topic due
Dec 13/14	First half of Annotated Bibliography due (three sources)
Jan 10/11	Completed Annotated Bibliography due (three sources)
Jan 24/25	Thesis statement and outline/plan of project due
Feb 28/Mar 1	First draft of project due
Mar 28/29	Final Draft or project due
May 20th - 24th	Minimester Camping Trip
June TBD (finals week)	Poster Presentations

Useful Documents: the following documents will provide guidance as you begin your paper.

How to write an Annotated Bibliography
How to write a Thesis Statement and Outline
& How to Avoid Plagiarism

How to write an Annotated Bibliography

An annotated bibliography is just a regular works cited or bibliography page, except that it contains *at least one detailed paragraph* under each source.

Your annotated bibliography will be written on your working document. You will submit the first half (**due Dec 13/14**) and completed bibliography (**due Jan 10/11**) using the Google form.

This will take some time. Ideally, you should spend about 45 minutes to an hour *per source* (reading and constructing annotation). This does not include time spent searching for sources. You **cannot** complete this assignment successfully in one night or even a few nights without seriously compromising the quality of your work.

1. **Choose your sources.** Your bibliography needs at least 8 sources.

These must include the latest State of the Bay Report (webpage), 1 multimedia source (video, podcast, song, etc), 1 expert interview, 1 peer-reviewed article (Google Scholar), 1 periodical (newspaper, magazine, etc), and the remaining three can be from whichever of the above listed categories you choose.

2. **Review your sources.** Read, listen to, or watch your source and take notes.

3. **Write the citation and annotation.**

Use MLA or APA format to **cite** each source (NOT .urls!) List sources in alphabetical order by author last name. Here is the link for the APA and MLA style guides for citations: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html

Annotate each source by writing a short paragraph about it. *Be sure to include the following for each source:*

- a. Information about the author(s) or organization
- b. A summary of the information: main ideas, conclusions, important facts
- c. Lens(es) the source uses: Economic, scientific, environmental, futuristic, ethical, cultural/social, political/historical, and/or artistic/philosophical
- d. What is the question the source answers?
- e. How will you use the article?

How to Create an Outline

An outline is a “blueprint” or “plan” for your project. It helps you to organize your thoughts and arguments. A good outline can make conducting research and then creating your project product very efficient. Your outline page must include your:

- Project Title and format (or idea for one)
- Your thesis statement or argument
- Major points/arguments indicated by Roman numerals (i.e., I, II, III, IV, V, etc.)
- Support for your major points, indicated by capital Arabic numerals (i.e., A, B, C, D, E, etc.)

Roman numeral I should be your “Introduction”. In the introduction portion of your project, you’ll want to tell the audience what your project is about and then tell what your project hopes to prove (your thesis). An introduction gives an overview of the topic and your thesis statement.

The final Roman numeral should be your “Conclusion”. In the conclusion, you summarize what you have told your audience.

Where do I start?

- **Brainstorm:** List all the ideas that you want to include in your project.
- **Organize:** Group related ideas together.
- **Order:** Arrange material in subsections from general to specific or from abstract to concrete.
- **Label:** Create main and sub headings.

Standard format:

I. Roman numerals (I, II, III, IV, V, etc.)

A. Capital letters (A, B, C, etc.)

1. Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.)

a. Small letters (a, b, c, etc.)

i. Small Roman numerals (i, ii, iii, iv, v, etc.)

(Outline cont’d on next page)

(Outline cont'd)

Create an arrangement that develops your ideas. Here is a possible example:

Title: XXXXXXXXX

- I. Introduction
 - A. Background info
 - B. Thesis statement
 - C. Main points
- II. Main point #1
 - A. fact that supports your point #1
 1. explanation
 - B. Another fact that supports your point #1
 1. explanation
 - C. Another fact that supports your point #1
 1. explanation
 - D. Transition
- III. Main point #2
 - A. fact that supports your point #2
 1. explanation
 - B. Another fact that supports your point #2
 1. explanation
 - C. Transition
- IV. Main point #3
 - A. fact that supports your point #3
 1. explanation
 - B. Another fact that supports your point #3
 1. explanation
 - C. Transition
- V. Conclusion
 - A. Review of main points
 - B. Synthesis: connect back to your thesis or argument
 - C. Judgement of some sort: what should the reader take away? What are implications? What should happen now?

Each main point needs at least 2-3 proofs (evidence/facts from your research) to support it. Present any opposing viewpoints (counter arguments) and explain how you refute them.

How to Avoid Plagiarism

Paraphrase - So you have found information that is perfect for your research paper. Read it and put it into your own words.

Cite - Citing is one of the effective ways to avoid plagiarism.

- **If creating a poster or powerpoint presentation**, use in-text citations (MLA or APA is fine).
- **If creating a film, podcast or other recording**, verbally cite the source you used for the information you present (ex: "In 2012, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation published a report stating that..."). Citing is really that simple. Not citing properly can constitute plagiarism.

Quote - When quoting a source, use the quote exactly the way it appears. *For this project, you may only use one direct, short quote.* Paraphrase everything else - this project must be your own words!

Reference - One of the most important ways to avoid plagiarism is including a page of works cited (or include in the credits for recorded projects). For this project, this will be your annotated bibliography.

AVOID THESE MISTAKES!

1) COPY-AND-PASTE PLAGIARISM This is the type we are most familiar with: copying text directly from a book, webpage or other source. This includes passing off another student's work as your own. This is never acceptable, even if you cite the reference source in-text and in the Bibliography.

2) WORD-SWITCH PLAGIARISM This is when you simply switch the word order and/or substitute some different words from a phrase, sentence, or paragraphs of a source. This is never acceptable.

3) SENTENCE REARRANGEMENT PLAGIARISM This is when you rearrange the order of parts a phrase, sentence or paragraphs of a source. This is never acceptable.

4) FALSIFIED DATA/ INFORMATION PLAGIARISM This is when you make up information, data or authors, or claim a source says something it does not. This is never acceptable.

5) APPROPRIATION OF IDEAS PLAGIARISM This is when you use another author's arguments, line of reasoning, and/or essay structure, paraphrasing or summarizing their ideas and passing them off as your own. This is never acceptable.

6) MISSING IN-TEXT CITATION PLAGIARISM This is when you do not include in-text citations. Remember to "Write (cite.) Write (cite.)" CITE AS YOU WRITE: it is impossible to go back AFTER writing and figure out what reference source went with what facts.

7) MISSING BIBLIOGRAPHY PLAGIARISM This is when you do not include all of the references used and cited in your project in the Annotated Bibliography citations. A project without bibliography is plagiarized.