

Purpose:

The purpose of these weekly annotation assignments is to encourage you to actively engage with the course readings. Annotating involves marking up and interacting with the text, which helps you to:

- **Comprehend the material more deeply:** Identify key concepts, track arguments, and make connections.
- **Retain information better:** The act of writing and interacting with the text strengthens your memory.
- **Think critically:** Question, analyze, and evaluate the author's ideas.
- **Prepare for class discussions and assignments:** Your annotations will serve as a valuable study tool.

Instructions:

1. **Each week, select ONE of the two assigned readings.**
2. **Read the selected text carefully and thoughtfully.**
3. **Annotate the text by hand.** This can include:
 - Highlighting key terms, definitions, main ideas, supporting details, or examples.
 - Underlining important sentences or phrases.
 - Writing notes in the margins: questions, comments, connections to other readings, or personal reflections.
 - Developing a system of symbols or codes to mark recurring themes, arguments, or literary devices.
 - Writing brief summaries at the end of each chapter or section.
4. **Take pictures of your annotated notes if handwritten.** Make sure the pictures are clear and legible. Upload a PDF of your notes if you are using Adobe (or some other markup software).
5. **Upload the pictures / PDFs to Canvas by the due date.** The due date for each week's annotation assignment is **11:59 PM on the Sunday after we have discussed the readings**. The due dates are also posted on each submission section on Canvas.

Grading:

Your annotations will be graded on the quality of your engagement with the text. I will be looking for evidence that you are actively reading, thinking critically, and making connections.

Tips:

- **Be selective in your highlighting and underlining.** Don't mark up everything; focus on the most important parts of the text.
- **Use your own words in your notes.** This will help you to process the information and make it your own.
- **Ask questions and make connections.** Don't be afraid to challenge the author's ideas or connect them to other things you've learned.
- **Review your annotations regularly.** This will help you to solidify your understanding of the material.