The study of literature, fiction predominantly, involves what is called literary schools of criticism or critical approaches to literature. A literary school or critical approach, in essence, is a lens by which to study literature. It allows you to look at the literature through the specific parameters established by the critical approach. There are about 25 literary schools, some of which are covered in your textbook.

For this assignment, you will be assigned a critical approach to research. No two students will be have the same topic. Below you will find a list of approaches. You will be given a critical approach (which will also be the topic of your research paper) by the end of this class.

The nature of your research is to search for and gather reputable sources that inform, educate and/or enlighten your readers as to the parameters surrounding and involving the critical approach. You are then to narrow your sources to ten and compile them into an annotated bibliography. The objective is to comb through the body of knowledge that exists on the critical approach and to locate 10 sources that offer distinct information on the critical approach, from its origin, its founder(s) to its inner workings to literary samples that can be studied through the approach.

Creating an annotated bibliography calls for the application of a combination of intellectual skills: concise exposition, succinct analysis, and informed library and Internet research. Therefore, it is vital that you fully understand the principles behind your critical approach and that you are familiar with key terminology pertaining to your critical approach and key terminology pertaining to the research process. If you do not, it is in your best interest that you study it closely.

Upon determining your critical approach, follow the directions below for your annotated bibliography:

1) Compile a minimum 10-source annotated bibliography.
2) The citation (bibliographic information) for each source must follow MLA (8th 2016 updated edition) Works Cited guidelines.
3) Each citation of the bibliography MUST be fully annotated, which includes a summary paragraph (200 and 250 words), an assessment paragraph (100 to 150 words), and a reflection paragraph (200 to 250 words). The summary paragraph must have ONE quote from the source.

Keep in mind that the primary scope of the annotated bibliography is to locate, cite and annotate sources that inform, educate and/or enlighten your audience on the critical approach. The sources you gather must reflect this precisely.
Your bibliography must be comprised of at least:

1) Four Internet library database sources.
2) Two Google Scholar Internet sources.
3) A video, such as a documentary, lecture, exposition, etc.
4) Three pieces of fiction (short stories or novels) that can be studied through the critical approach.

All of your sources **MUST** be reputable.

Include a combination of primary and secondary sources.

The overall format of the bibliography must be in accordance to MLA style guidelines, which includes 12 pt. Times New Roman font, double spaced, alphabetical placement of each citation with a hanging indent for each citation.

The practical objective of this assignment is to help you gain or enhance research and processing skills and critical thinking skills. It will allow you to witness firsthand the body of information that is available and how to sort through it. Also, the hope is that along the way you develop, if you have not already, an interest in literature and that you continue to see the value in it in both your personal, educational and professional lives.

This is not a test; it is a learning experience. You are welcome and encouraged to ask questions at any time during the research process.

Your annotated bibliography is due no later than Sunday, March 22.

List of critical approaches:

New Criticism (Formalism)
Structuralism
Post Structuralism
Deconstruction
Narrative Theory
Biographical Criticism
Freudian Criticism (Psychoanalytical Criticism)
Jungian Criticism
Lacan Criticism
Archetypal Criticism
Myth Criticism
Stream of Consciousness
Marxist Criticism
Feminist Criticism
Gender Studies
Queer Studies
African American Studies
New Historicism
Cultural Studies
Ethnic Studies
Postcolonial Criticism
Post Modern Criticism
Moral Criticism
Reader Response
Dramatic Construction