ENGL 100 Sec 2  
Fall 2021

Works Cited Assignment

Professor McSharry

One of the learning outcomes for ENGL 100W is to demonstrate your information literacy skills in papers of literary analysis. This assignment is designed to help you develop these skills.

In our class, you will develop your information literacy abilities by learning to:

* identify appropriate source materials,
* integrate them into your own papers of literary analysis, and
* cite them correctly, following Modern Language Association (MLA) guidelines

Your homework is to locate three online sources that you might use in your paper. These sources cannot be interpretations of the work you've chosen to analyze. Rather, they should provide useful contextual information--biographical, literary, historical, cultural--that will enhance your paper.

The sources you locate must be scholarly (which includes peer reviewed articles and books, but is not limited to them) and/or published on a reputable website. Using the library's search function, you can easily see which sources are scholarly and which aren't. But you don't need to limit yourself to the library's database. There are plenty of good websites from which you can draw information; the challenge is that you must determine whether or not a given website is reputable and useful.

How do you determine whether or not a website is reputable? Well, it's easier to identify what's *not*going to work: most .com sites. Why are they unusable for our purposes? By definition, .com sites are commercial ventures, which creates the potential for significant bias. Sites that end with .org, .edu, and .gov tend to be more useful, but many of these sites are also not particularly useful because of the potential for error, ranging from the unintentional omission to the flagrantly misleading.

In class, we will practice looking at websites to determine if they are at all useful for our purposes.