Source Documentation 101

Sigrun Biesenbach-Lucas & Donette Brantner-Artenie

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Research Process Portfolio: Project Overview Language Policy Unit

What is a research portfolio?

As we complete the activities and readings from our textbook and other sources during this unit, each of you will also work on creating a "research portfolio." A portfolio is a collection of one's "best works," such as writing assignments for which you received the highest evaluations. In this assignment, however, you will select a topic related to our unit on endangered languages and official language policies and conduct research on that topic.

What are requirements for the research portfolio?

You will search for *appropriate* articles, book chapters, and web sites that would be helpful for you to use in support of your ideas if you were to write a research paper on your selected topic. You will also complete the following specific items with those sources:

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	printed copies of the final sources that you collect that include your annotations a source "information log" worksheet in which you will note the important pieces of information required for generating complete citations of your selected sources (and brief notes on key ideas you would use from the source) a formal bibliography of your selected sources in MLA Style a worksheet in which you will note <i>how</i> you would use three of your sources (i.e., which specific information would you take from an article, book chapter, or a web site to support your own ideas) a formal (and general) planning outline of a potential research paper on your topic
How will the portfolio components need to be formatted?	
I will provide specific instructions for each step of the project, and we will examine and discuss examples of items from past students' portfolios. Your final collection of documents that you have selected and/or completed will need to be compiled in a digital format, for which you will also receive instructions.	
How will the portfolio be evaluated?	
You will receive feedback on the following criteria:	
	the number and variety of the sources included in your portfolio (i.e., you have included the assigned minimum number and type of articles and other source materials)
	the quality of the sources included in your portfolio (i.e., your selected sources are academic in nature and are appropriate for your topic)
	the clarity and effectiveness of your source information log worksheet (including your note-taking), source use worksheet, and planning outline
	the accuracy of your MLA Style citation formatting in the bibliography

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