

Article Annotations

Due Thursday 3 April & Thursday 24 April

1. Both readings will be handed out in class. If you are unable to be in class on the day an article is handed out, it is your responsibility to get a copy of the article you need from Dr. Myers.
2. On the title and/or copyright page(s), comment on the following:
 - a. What can you tell about the overall purpose of the journal from its title?
 - b. What presumptions do you have about what you will read based on the title of the article?
 - c. How recent is the reading? Do you expect it to feature up-to-date, cutting-edge research? If not, do you have any questions/concerns about what you will find in it before you begin reading?
3. Locate the thesis statement and highlight/underline it. Comment next to it about your initial impressions. Does it seem reasonable? Is it an appropriately-sized task for the length of the reading?
4. Proceed through the reading marking any points the author makes that you find interesting, any evidence that stands out to you, or any places where you are confused because the explanation is unclear/the evidence is weak. For each you should make a note in the margin about why you have highlighted/underlined the passage. These can be your own shorthand, if you like, just make sure the first time you use a symbol that you let me know what it means. *You should have substantial comments on every page of the reading, even if it is just asking questions.*
5. When you reach the end re-read the thesis statement and give it additional thought.
6. On the back of the final page of the reading, comment on the following:
 - a. Did the author(s) accomplish what they set out to in their thesis statement or not? What do you think their next step of research should be?
 - b. Did you notice any particular bias on the part of the author(s)?
 - c. What did you think of the evidence used by the author(s)? How was the balance between primary and secondary materials? Would you have preferred more of one type of source or another? Explain your reasoning.
 - d. How does this article help your understanding of the textbooks?
 - e. For the first annotation: How does this article help your understanding of Scottish history generally? For the second annotation: How does this article help your understanding of the history of witchcraft in Europe?
7. Do not forget to write your name on the first page of the article before you hand it in.

Note: We will be using the articles you read as the basis of class discussion the day it is due to be submitted, but you are expected to come to class with all of these tasks already completed.