# Texts in Conversation Assignment: Preliminary Bibliography

**Due:** Friday, April 27, by 4:30pm

**Bibliography Format:** A bibliography in MLA form including 8 sources, uploaded to Coursework. Should include the source you wrote about for your preliminary blog post as one of the 8 sources.

**Submission Format:** Upload to Coursework.

**Grading:** The Texts in Conversation as a whole is worth 25% of the overall class grade. The preliminary bibliography is one component of this assignment.

Now that you have written your preliminary blog post and posted it to the Rhetgaming Blog, your next step is to put into play the research skills you learned in the library workshop (on the 24th) and locate 7 additional sources relevant to your research topic (for a total of 8 sources). List them in a working bibliography in proper MLA form (which includes their being in alphabetical order), including the source that you used for your blog post. You should have a mixture of primary and secondary sources.

Please include after each source the search method you used to find it (i.e. “through Google Search”; “used Academic Search Premiere”; “Used SearchWorks”; “Found in article bibliography”) as well as the URL for the source if applicable (you do not need a URL for a source found through an academic database; include a URL for any source that you get directly from the web). If you use xsearch to find an article, you should mention that you found it BOTH through xsearch AND which database xsearch took it from. I.e.: (Database: PubMed. Found through xsearch)

**PLEASE NOTE:** For your preliminary bibliography, you must use at least TWO academic databases (these are linked from databases.stanford.edu) in searching for articles and include at least two sources on your list (one from each database) that you found using this method. You can find possible databases for your search listed through the Rhetoric of Gaming Research Guide created by Chris Bourg or through the hotlinked databases, both on the right sidebar of the Rhetgaming website.

Please keep in mind that you are welcome (and also encouraged) to use Searchworks in researching your topic – however, Searchworks is an online CATALOGUE, not a DATABASE, and so you can’t use it to fulfill the database requirement for this assignment.

**One more note:** In drafting this bibliography and posting it, you are not suggesting that you have read all 8 sources (though that would be great). This component of the assignment is designed to show me that you can conduct searches on your topic and find an adequate number of sources to start the research process.
See the “MLA Style” handout (linked through Coursework Handouts folder and also through the Writing Resources tab on the Rhetgaming website) to help you to format your bibliography in appropriate MLA form.

This preliminary bibliography should be posted to your TiC folder by 5pm on Friday the 27th.

Sample Preliminary Bibliography

Below is a sample preliminary bibliography for you to use as a model.

SAMPLE: Preliminary Bibliography


METHOD: used Searchworks


METHOD: Google Search


METHOD: used Business Source Complete database


METHOD: used Academic Search Premier


METHOD: used Searchworks


METHOD: used Academic Search Premier


METHOD: used Searchworks


METHOD: used Access World News database


METHOD: used Academic Search Premier

METHOD: used Searchworks


METHOD: used Business Source Complete database

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**Evaluation Criteria**

The preliminary bibliography is also considered a draft and will not be graded, though your grade for the TiC as a whole will be reduced by ½ a grade (from A- to A-/B+) if the bibliography

- Doesn’t contain 8 sources
- Doesn’t show SOME attempt at MLA form (it doesn’t need to be perfect – I just need to see that you are trying)
- Omits the reference to how you searched/found the sources
- Doesn’t include citations found through at least 2 different databases
- Doesn’t include URLs
- Is late

**Further Resources**

E-mail me directly or tweet me (@rhetgaming) with specific questions about the assignment.

Please refer to the MLA Style handout for help in formatting your MLA citations correctly.