

## Guide Student Reading with Annotated PDFs

### Why annotate?

Students, particularly those new to a discipline, need to become skilled readers of texts in those disciplines. You can guide that process with annotations that might include pre-reading questions, highlighted terms, arguments, or theses, and embedded notes that support, explain, or question the text. Annotating helps students focus their attention and improve comprehension. Some might consider this doing the students' work for them, but providing these examples helps them gain the literacy skills they need while modeling a practice they should learn to do themselves.

A [sample annotated article on a topic in Anthropology](#) from Jennifer Dickinson.

(<http://www.uvm.edu/~hag/presentations/annotating-pdfs/annotating-sample-dickinson.pdf>)

A [sample annotated article on a topic in Film Studies](#) from Deb Ellis.

(<http://www.uvm.edu/~hag/presentations/annotating-pdfs/annotating-sample-ellis.pdf>)

### How do you annotate?

- Adobe Acrobat X1 (Mac/Windows): [Annotations and Drawing Markup Tools](#) (<https://allenpress.com/system/files/pdfs/library/apmk-pdf-annotation.pdf>)
- Preview (Mac): <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201740> (<https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201740>)
- iPhone and other mobile devices: [PDF Annotation Tools](#) (<http://www.hongkiat.com/blog/free-pdf-annotation-tools/>)

### What will students need in order to see or hear the annotations?

- Adobe Reader (Windows/Mac): download from [Adobe](#) or from [UVM's Software page](#)
- Preview (Mac): pre-installed on all Macs [Note: Audio and video annotations created in Adobe cannot be heard or seen in Preview]

### Why (and how) should students learn to annotate?

- [I'll Have Mine Annotated, Please: Helping Students Make Connections with Texts](#) (Matthew D. Brown) ([http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson\\_images/lesson1132/EJ0964Have.pdf](http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson1132/EJ0964Have.pdf))
- [Asking Students to Annotate Their Own Papers](#) (James P. Beck) (<http://www.jstor.org/stable/357500>)

### Beyond PDF Annotations

- Annotating Images with ThingLink: <https://streaming.uvm.edu/media/videos/426/thinglink/>
- Collaborative Annotations with Annotation Studio: <http://www.annotationstudio.org/>