

Annotated Bibliography

Overview: An annotated bibliography (hereafter referred to as AB) is a type of academic paper you write to compile and analyze your research. In the AB, you will provide the bibliographic information, a summary, and an evaluation of each source. The sources that you include in your AB are only the best sources you find (they are relevant to your research question, are from credible sources, and have been published recently). You may have to read several sources before you select the ones you choose to include in your AB.

You will also write a brief introductory essay for your AB that states what your research question is, why you chose that research question, and how you feel each individual source helps you answer that question.

Purpose: The general purpose of this annotated bibliography is to organize the research you plan to use for the research paper. This assignment has several specific purposes within that general purpose. The specific purposes are:

- To have you illustrate your research skills
- To have you show your documentation skills
- To have you demonstrate your summarization skills
- To have you show your critical thinking skills as you evaluate the usefulness and reliability of a source

Audience: For this assignment, your audience is your instructor and your classmates.

Organization:

Intro: The introduction must be 1 page or less. It will introduce your audience to your research question and will connect each of your sources to that question.

Annotations: You will need to include 4 sources in this paper. At least 1 of the sources has to be a scholarly article found through the library databases and needs to be at *least* 4 pages long. Your remaining sources may include website sources (be sure to evaluate the site for credibility--no Wikipedia), books, videos, newspapers, etc. I encourage you to look for different kinds of sources (scholarly articles, reports, opinion pieces, etc.). Remember that there are different *forms* of texts, and if you find a *credible* and helpful documentary or news broadcast, that can count as a source.

In this order, each source will need to have:

- The bibliographic information listed (see A Writer's Reference for help with MLA)
- An objective summary of the thesis and main points from the source (about one paragraph or a ½ page)
- An evaluation/critical analysis of the source which will specifically address the credibility of the source, the relevance of the source to your research question, and a consideration of how current the source is (about one paragraph or ½ page)

Helpful Resources:

- Conducting research: pgs. 318-331 AWR
- Evaluating sources: pgs. 333-341 AWR
- Summarizing, quoting, paraphrasing: pgs. 62-63, 345-346 AWR
- Documentation: pgs. 355-412 AWR

Details:

Your total project (introduction as well as 4 sources at about a page each) should be about 5 typed, double-spaced pages. You must use MLA documentation.

Due: March 3rd.

Annotated Bibliography Evaluation Rubric

Excellent	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	None
<p>Introduction: Is a complete essay that accurately explains the clear research question as well as how each individual source answers that question.</p>	<p>The introduction shows you have a fairly clear question but need a better sense of your sources because elements are incompletely developed.</p>	<p>After reading your introduction, readers are not sure of your question or that you have investigated it well because of missing or significantly undeveloped elements.</p>	<p>No introduction is present.</p>
<p>Bibliography: Presents sources from library databases and other appropriate venues that provide enough relevant information about and various perspectives on the question-at-issue to develop an informed paper.</p>	<p>The bibliography presents sources that provide information on the question-at-issue but there is some repetition or obvious information. Need info from other databases or resources to develop an informed paper.</p>	<p>The bibliography does not have enough sources to develop an informed paper because it lacks key sources of information, does not represent key perspectives, lacks focus, and/or is comprised of lower-quality sources.</p>	<p>No bibliography present, or the sources indicated are inappropriate for an academic audience.</p>
<p>Annotations: Demonstrate critical reading through accurately & objectively summarizing and effectively evaluating each source's credibility, authority, and usefulness to project.</p>	<p>Annotations may summarize effectively but need to develop evaluations more (or vice versa).</p>	<p>Annotations have weak summaries and/or do not provide support for source evaluations. Or summaries may be adequate but evaluations are missing.</p>	<p>No annotations.</p>
<p>Citations: follow MLA style</p>	<p>Minor citations errors.</p>	<p>Citations not follow MLA style.</p>	<p>No citations</p>
<p>Conventions & Style: AB correctly formatted: double-spaced; entries listed alphabetically, aligned left, except hanging indent after first line of citation. Few editing errors: grammar, punctuation, spelling.</p>	<p>Minor editing errors are present in the text. In general, the format is followed, but one requirement is overlooked.</p>	<p>Repeated, distracting editing errors in the text. The bibliography has multiple format errors.</p>	<p>Serious editing errors or style interfere with readability. Bib. does not follow format.</p>