

APSU Writing Center
Annotated Bibliography

Annotated Bibliography

*****Before you write check with your professor to clarify assignment instructions*****

A **bibliography** is defined as a list of source materials that are used or consulted in the preparation of a work or that are referred to in the text.

- is often listed at the end of academic writing in the form of citations
- Citation styles vary between MLA, APA, Chicago, CSE, and more.
 - References List, Works Cited, etc.

An **annotated bibliography** encourages critical thinking and includes a summary and evaluation of each source.

- comes directly after the citation
- typically 100 - 300 words in length creating one paragraph
- Potential points:
 - brief source summary
 - source relevancy
 - source strengths and weaknesses
 - source conclusions
 - relationship with other sources
 - connections to other aspects of the same argument
 - opposing viewpoints
 - author background information
 - personal conclusions
- Things to consider:
 - **Who**
 - Identify the source's qualifications, biography, and expertise
 - Who is the author of this source? What is their background information? What makes this source credible?
 - **What**
 - Summarize the main topic, focus, or research
 - What is the main focus of this source? What are the key findings or goals of this source?
 - **When**
 - Mention the date of publication
 - When was this source published or last updated?
 - **Where**
 - title, journal name, publisher
 - Where was this source published?
 - **Why**
 - Mention source relevance
 - Why does this source relate to your research? What specific aspects or critiques are important to include?

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o **How**

- Methods for how the research was created or examined
- How was this research conducted? How does the source help shape the argument? How can it be applied to the research project? Has the perspective of the argument changed? How does it compare with the other sources?

MLA 9th Sample Format:

Annotated Bibliography

Cooper, Mary Ann. *Lightning Injury Research Program*. University of Illinois at Chicago, lightninginjury.lab.uic.edu/.

This is an educational site with research information, tables, and...

APA Sample Format:

Annotated Bibliography

Ehrenreich, B. (2001). *Nickel and dimed: On (not) getting by in America*. Henry Holt and Company.

In this book of nonfiction based on...

Chicago Sample Format:

Annotated Bibliography

Davidson, Hilda Ellis. *Roles of the Northern Goddess*. London: Routledge, 1998.

Davidson's book provides a thorough examination of the major roles...

References

Cornell University Library (2019). *How to Prepare an Annotated Bibliography: The Annotated Bibliography*. Cornell University. <https://guides.library.cornell.edu/annotatedbibliography/home>

Dymarz, A. (2023, September 6). *How to write an annotated bibliography*. Simon Fraser University. <https://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/cite-write/citation-style-guides/annotated-bibliography>

Purdue Owl (2023) *Annotated Bibliography Samples*. Purdue Online Writing Lab. https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/common_writing_assignments/annotated_bibliographies/annotated_bibliography_samples.html

The Writing Center (2023). *Annotated Bibliographies*. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. <https://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/annotated-bibliographies/>