

Annotated Bibliography

Due July 17th

The purpose of the annotated bibliography is to make sure you are on the right track with your research question and the sources for your literature review. A literature review is nothing like an annotated bibliography, but doing the bibliography first allows you to avoid some of the mistake that students make in a literature review.

For the Paper: The Problem statement and research question paper that you handed in on July 10th should be revised and included as the introduction to the annotated bibliography. I expect that you will revise this paper based on the comments that you receive.

8 Academic sources: You need a minimum of 6 academic sources for your literature review. Remember, government statistics and reports, newspaper, websites, and statistical data are not academic sources. Your sources need to relate to your topic and questions, but do not need to be about your specific question. So if you are planning on studying something in Minnesota, you can use articles that are write about the same topic in different states, cities or nationally. (If you have any questions please contact one of us).

An annotation is a summary and/or evaluation. Therefore, an annotated bibliography includes a summary and/or evaluation of each of the sources:

Summarize: What are the main arguments? What is the point of this book or article?

Do Not use the abstract as your annotated bibliography summary. Do not use the abstract to write the annotated bibliography.

Assess: After summarizing a source, it may be helpful to evaluate it. Is it a useful source? How does it compare with other sources in your bibliography?

Reflect: Once you've summarized and assessed a source, you need to ask how it fits into your research. Was this source helpful to you? How does it help you shape your argument? How can you use this source in your research project? Has it changed how you think about your topic?

Format for the paper:

Topic statement/introduction to the topic (similar to the first and second paper)

Research questions

The bibliographic information: Use what ever style you like, but it must remain consistent.

The annotations: The annotations for each source are written in paragraph form.