

Annotated Bibliography

Purpose: Annotated bibliographies help you to understand and reflect on key papers in your field. They can also help you begin to see how these works fit together in a larger context.

Begin constructing an annotated bibliography that you will continually update and refer to throughout the inquiry process. Annotated bibliographies help researchers keep track of their searches, information that was found, and the relevance of such information to their own inquiry. This is important so that the sources can be used appropriately to support one's claims and choices throughout the inquiry process.

When annotating each citation, write a brief (about 150 words) descriptive and evaluative paragraph. Be sure to:

- Summarize the significant findings or key information from the source.
- Identify the data or other information analyzed in this work.
- Identify the method of inquiry in this work.
- Summarize how this work informs your inquiry.
- Evaluate the credibility and relevance of the source as it pertains to your inquiry.
- Include direct quotes from the source that are applicable to your inquiry.
- Reflect on whether the source will be used in your academic paper and if not, why not.

Here are the sentence starters you can use in your Annotated Bibliography:

- The purpose of this study was...
- The Researcher(s) hypothesized that...
- The Researcher(s) collected the data by...
- The study was conducted... (where)
- The results of the study found that...
- Limitations of the study include...
- This study is significant to my research topic because...

Other important considerations are the objectivity of the researcher. A good question to keep in mind is: How did the researcher ensure they were objective? How did they eliminate biases in their study?