WHAT IS AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY?

An annotated bibliography is a list of sources such as books, articles and web sites used for researching a topic. Each citation is followed by a brief (about 120 -200 words) descriptive and critical summarizing paragraph, called an annotation. The purpose of the annotation is to inform the reader of the relevance, accuracy, and quality of the sources cited.

A bibliography is also known by other terms such as Works Cited, References, and Cited Sources.

ANNOTATIONS VS. ABSTRACTS

Abstracts are short summaries usually found at the beginning of scholarly journal articles. Abstracts summarize the article, the study or proceedings content as described by the author (s). Annotations are more descriptive and often critical. Annotations identify the author's credentials while summarizing key points, conclusion or results as well as any bias. Do not cut and paste the abstract

ANNOTATION ELEMENTS

- Begin with citation format (APA)
- Authority: Identify author(s) and qualifications when possible
- Basic Idea: Provide brief statement on the focus, the purpose or main idea of study
- Population: Identify group studied
- Methodology: Identify research method such as survey, questionnaire, observation
- Outcome: Conclusions or observations of author(s)

JOURNAL ARTICLES: 10 REQUIRED

- Library Databases provide the necessary academic, peer-reviewed journal articles.
- Recommended Databases: Academic Search Complete, PsycArticles, Psychology & Behavioral Sciences, GenderWatch and Ethnic NewsWatch.
- Journal articles divide into sections or areas of information. Sections useful for annotation: Abstract, Introduction, Method and Conclusion/Discussion.
Use NoodleBib, a citation generator that also manages annotations. Found on the Library HomePage. Will correctly print annotated bibliography in the current APA format. Becomes a word document. Follow Dr. Messmer’s requirements such as how to add name, section, topic.

SAMPLE ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ENTRY FOR JOURNAL ARTICLE

Following example uses the APA format for the journal citation. YOUR citations should look like one of these examples. One citation identifies the database and the other citation has a DOI number. This is not the correct formatting. There is not enough space to double space correctly as APA requires. Follow Noodlebib.


The authors, researchers at the Rand Corporation and Brown University, use data from the National Longitudinal Surveys of Young Women and Young Men to test their hypothesis that nonfamily living by young adults alters their attitudes, values, plans, and expectations, moving them away from their belief in traditional sex roles. They find their hypothesis strongly supported in young females, while the effects were fewer in studies of young males. Increasing the time away from parents before marrying increased individualism, self-sufficiency, and changes in attitudes about families. In contrast, an earlier study by Williams shows no significant gender differences in sex role attitudes as a result of nonfamily living. In conclusion, while the current study indicates individualization results from independent living, further study would be of value.


Voeltz, University of Arizona, noted that as services for severely handicapped children become increasingly available within neighborhood public schools, children's attitudes toward handicapped peers in integrated settings warrant attention. Factor analysis of attitude survey responses of 2,392 children revealed four factors underlying attitudes toward handicapped peers: social-contact willingness, deviance consequation, and two actual contact dimensions. Upper elementary-age children, girls, and children in schools with most contact with severely handicapped peers expressed the most accepting attitudes. Results of this study suggest the modifiability of children's attitudes and the need to develop interventions to facilitate social acceptance of individual differences in integrated school settings.

Adapted from Cornell University Library and University Libraries, University of Toledo.