

## Annotated Bibliography

**Introduction:** A bibliography is a list of sources, and annotations are relatively short (one page, in our case) descriptions and analyses of those sources. The annotated bibliography is an interesting genre, because it can be a process document (one that helps you complete a specific larger project, as it is meant to in our case) and an end in itself (it is possible to publish annotated bibliographies as books for researchers interested in academic conversations on particular topics). As a process document, the annotated bibliography offers us the opportunity to gather information about our sources (standard stuff like author, title, medium, etc.) and become familiar with (through summary, analysis, quote, paraphrase, etc.) how we might use them in our own writing. It also gives us a format to organize our research information, so that it is more easily accessible as we write. But, ultimately, we will submit the AB as a polished product in our portfolio, as well.

### Requirements:

- The Annotated Bibliography should be at least 5 pages long, although it may be longer. Each page will consist of one entry in the Annotated Bibliography. Use your page well to document information, analysis, and thoughts about each source.
- At least four of the entries should focus on scholarly/academic sources. This means the sources were published in a peer-reviewed journal or book published by a university press.
- Follow the guide from 148-150 in *From Inquiry to Academic Writing*. For each annotation: present key ideas (summarize), analyze (describe the different parts that contribute to the whole), and determine relevance (reflect on how the source can inform or relate to your research project...how you could use it in your paper...how it relates to other sources you are using...how your audience might feel about it).
- In each of your annotations, you should use summary AND direct quotation or paraphrase (with in-text citations) as you cover that particular source. For more information on how to use summary, direct quotation, and paraphrase, please read 14d in *Easy Writer*.

**Form:** The final form of an annotated bibliography is fairly standard and, for the most part, students' documents should look similar, apart from differences as a result of the requirements of style. Heading information for each entry should be organized in a reputable style that you've agreed on with your instructor. You will list the header information for each annotation as it would appear as a citation in a Works Cited at the end of an essay. MLA style is the default style.

**Challenges:** In WRIT 111, your Annotated Bibliographies will be working documents. Get comfortable with the fact that they will evolve over time and some entries may continue to be revised, or even deleted, and that other sources may come into play later in the process. This puts a responsibility on you to attend to and revise the annotated bibliography over the course of the semester, because it will be a document included in the final portfolio. The five sources you choose to highlight through the annotated bibliography should be ones that, by the end of the semester, have been incorporated into your Argumentative Researched Essay and/or the Public Opinion Piece. They should be clearly relevant to the other work included in the portfolio, as well.