

Cerritos College Library

In the Wilford Michael Library & Learning Resource Center

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bibliographies are also called “Works Cited” or “References” depending on the citation style your instructor requires. The MLA Works Cited or the APA References usually include only the bibliographic information such as author, title, publisher, and date of publication.

An annotated bibliography is also a list of sources you have cited such as books, journals, magazines, newspapers, websites, etc. However, each citation is followed by an annotation or description of the source. The annotation is brief and is in paragraph format. Annotations are often intended to inform the reader of the quality and usefulness of the sources cited. They may also evaluate the author’s viewpoint and authority. (In contrast, *abstracts* are the descriptive summaries found at the beginning of scholarly journal articles or at the beginning of full text articles in an online database.)

Follow your instructor’s guidelines for information to include in the annotation, or choose several of the items below:

Describe the content
Describe the usefulness
Evaluate the methods of research
Evaluate the reliability

Discuss the author’s background and authority
Discuss the author’s conclusions and viewpoint
Discuss the audience the source is intended for
Describe your overall reaction to the source

Additional Guidelines – MLA

- Use the title “Annotated List of Works Cited.”
- These annotations are often summary or analytical.
- Following MLA format, use a hanging indent for the citation. This means the first line is not indented and all the other lines are indented four spaces or tab over.
- Double-space within and between entries.
- Begin your annotation immediately after the bibliographic information of the source ends. Do not skip to the next line unless your instructor requires this.

Annotated List of Works Cited

Campbell, Colin. "What It Will Really Take to Stop Global Warming." *Maclean's* 121:13 (2008): 42-46. *MasterFILE Premier*. Web. 10 Mar. 2010. The author gives information on important policy changes that are necessary to reduce and solve global warming. He emphasizes that governments, environmentalists, economists, and scientists will need to create new ways to deal with the issues.

Long, Douglas. *Global Warming*. New York: Facts on File, 2004. Print. The author gives an overview of the major issues in global warming and this is especially useful for providing a basic understanding.

There is a section on the law and global warming that discusses treaties and policies of the federal and state governments of the United States.

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Additional Guidelines – APA

- APA format does not require a special title. Use the usual term “References.”
- These annotations are often succinct summaries.
- Following APA format, use a hanging indent for the citations. The first line is set flush with the left margin and all other lines are indented four spaces or tab over.
- After the bibliographic citation, drop down to the next line to begin the annotation, but do not skip an extra line.
- The entire annotation is indented an additional two spaces, so each of its lines will be six spaces from the margin. If you use the tab, indent the annotation two more spaces after you tab over.

References

Baloğlu, M., Abbasi, A., & Masten, W. (2007, December). A cross-cultural comparison of anxiety among college students. *College Student Journal*, 41(4), 977-984. Retrieved April 30, 2008, from MasterFILE Premier database.

The purpose of this study was to compare and contrast the levels of anxiety experienced by American, Turkish, Mexican, and Philippines college students as measured by the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory. On both state and trait anxiety, Philippines scored the highest followed by Turkish, Mexican, and American students. The findings also indicate negative correlations between age and anxiety levels, with the younger participants having lower anxiety levels.

Krapp, K. (2005). Jean Piaget. In *Psychologists and their theories for students* (Vol. 2, pp. 345-372). Detroit: Thomson Gale.

This book explains Piaget's theories in detail and analyzes the historical context and critical reaction to the theories. Biographical information is also included. The explanations of Piaget's stages of cognitive development, constructivism, and his influence in the field of education are especially useful.

Books

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers
REFDESK LB2369 .G53 2009

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association
REFDESK BF76.7 .P83 2010

Internet Sites

How to Prepare an Annotated Bibliography (Cornell University Library)
<http://www.library.cornell.edu/olinuris/ref/research/skill28.htm>

Annotated Bibliographies (Purdue University Online Writing Lab)
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/02/>

Annotated Bibliographies (University of Wisconsin Writing Center)
http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/AnnBib_format.html

Sample Annotated Bibliography in MLA Style
<http://library.csun.edu/kduran/mlannotbib.pdf>