Sample Annotated Bibliography

Liberty University Student

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Whereas a bibliography is an organized listing of sources used in researching and preparing a project or paper, an annotated bibliography follows each source with a short “annotation,” which describes the content of the source and provides a critical evaluation of the material.

Bisignani, D. & Brizee, A. (2010). Annotated Bibliographies. Retrieved from Purdue University, Online Writing Lab (OWL) website:

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resources/614/01/.

The authors present a brief, well thought out description of an annotated bibliography and the rationale for preparing one. Moreover, they provide many examples in various formats, each with detailed explanations. This is a good reference for how to develop an “annotation” for any researcher.


Offering an excellent example of an annotated bibliography, the author is an assistant professor of journalism at the Greenlee School at Iowa State University.


This single-page handout provides a short, comprehensible overview of annotated bibliographies and also gives a remarkable example of each major kind of annotation.


The author has produced a marvelous sample annotated bibliography in APA format concerning Hispanic women activists in Los Angeles.

The page gives a very short description of the annotated bibliography process and only demonstrates two citation examples.


The author provides an excellent sample of an annotated bibliography in APA format.


This is the standard for any researcher producing an annotated bibliography. This pamphlet offers valuable information from planning the research to organizing the annotated bibliography. The author provides several examples, but more so he gives instruction in their creation. A wealth of source material is given in the reference section. This is highly recommended reading for any researcher.


In addition to offering a clear and concise explanation of the annotated bibliography, the author provides a wonderful sample, albeit in MLA format. The sample is marked with explanations throughout and would be very useful for a researcher new to the subject.

The author provides an excellent summary of the purpose of creating an annotated bibliography and gives helpful instruction on developing the “annotation.” Several examples are offered as well as a very useful list of sources for further information. The question/answer format given for generating the annotation will be valuable for those new to that task.


A very comprehensive annotated bibliography suitable for use as a sample by a researcher involved in a large project.

Kennedy-Clark, S., Downey, T., & Mort, P. (2006). Annotated Bibliography. Retrieved from the University of New South Wales, the Learning Centre website:


The authors present a straightforward “brochure” that explains the development of an annotated bibliography in a very readable, newsletter format. They provide a superior sample annotation, which provides sentence-by-sentence explanations.


The website gives a very brief explanation of how to prepare an annotated bibliography and provides a hyperlink to a comprehensive example in MLA format.

Memorial University of Newfoundland. (2008). How to Write Annotated Bibliographies. Retrieved from Queen Elizabeth II Library website:

This short handout briefly discusses the purposes of an annotated bibliography and provides two examples. It will be useful for those looking for a “quick start” to creating an annotated bibliography without having to wade through much detail.


http://userwww.sfsu.edu/~jnichols/Anobib.doc

The author provides a sample annotated bibliography on international business, as well as instruction on its preparation. In addition, he supplies many online sources to assist the researcher in developing an annotated bibliography. This document is recommended for anyone having to prepare an annotated bibliography.


http://lib.calpoly.edu/research/guides/bibliography.html

This webpage offers a crisp summary for creating an annotated bibliography, including quickly sketching the “whys” and “wherefores,” as well as giving two samples. This resource will be best as a succinct introduction into annotated bibliographies.


This research guide briefly explains annotated bibliographies and provides samples in the three most common academic writing formats. It is a handy reference for any researcher tasked with creating an annotated bibliography.

The author presents a very brief definition of an annotated bibliography but provides many different source examples in MLA format.


This site offers an excellent definition of a bibliography and what distinguishes an annotated bibliography, including how it is composed. The examples provided are single-spaced and difficult to read, however, there is a good reference list.


This webpage presents a clear and concise definition of an annotated bibliography as well as an excellent example of each major kind of annotation. It also provides a brief bulleted “how to” list for creating an annotated bibliography. The two example annotations are extremely helpful.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (2004). Annotated Bibliographies. Retrieved from the Writing Center website:

http://unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/annotated_bibliographies.html

The Writing Center provides a very detailed look at why annotated bibliographies are useful and how to create one. It also reviews several differences in formatting styles and their affect on the annotated bibliography. Hyperlinks to several examples are provided as is an extensive reference list.

This website gives a brief but thorough explanation of creating an annotated bibliography. Additionally, it provides several excellent examples.


The OIL provides an online learning module for creating an annotated bibliography. The module requires Adobe Flash and takes between 30 and 40 to complete. This website would be well worth the time for researchers completely unfamiliar with locating sources for their topic, as it begins at that basic level. There is much good information to be gained, but the process is very slow.


This newly updated website gives the researcher a wide variety of annotation types and examples of each, as well as giving examples for the varied writing styles that can be used to write them. In addition, it offers a list of references for the examples provided.