Annotated Bibliography: APA Style

What is an Annotated Bibliography? An annotated bibliography contains a reference entry of a possible source followed by a short paragraph or summary (100 – 200 words) describing that work.

To write an annotated bibliography:

- **Locate sources** – from online databases, the library, and websites
- **Choose the sources** - provide a wide variety of perspectives on the topic (article abstracts are helpful in this process)
- **Cite and annotate** - include some or all of the following:
  - Purpose of the work
  - Summary of its content
  - Information about author(s)
  - Relevance to the topic
  - Special or unique features about the material
  - Research methodology
  - Strengths, weaknesses, or biases in the material

**Tip:** Annotated bibliographies are arranged alphabetically by the authors' last names.

**Note:** For help with an annotated bibliography, refer to the APA Publication Manual, pages 180 – 215.

Information is based on the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Edition*. Individual instructor’s specifications may vary, so check with your instructor before formatting and submitting your work.

Still have questions? Come see us – SWC L401