

Writing an Annotated Bibliography

What is it?

A list of sources followed by brief statements about their contents. Statements can vary in length from a few sentences to a paragraph, roughly 150 words.

Review your assignment

Professors will generally outline what they want from your annotation, including citation style (APA, MLA, Chicago, etc.), annotation length, and what content they expect.

Avoid restating the abstract

An annotation summarizes but also often includes an evaluative component, e.g. how does the work relate to other research in the field? Are there questions you have, such as the author's point of view?

Content you may be asked to identify:

- Author credentials
- Purpose of the research
- Author point of view
- Intended audience
- Source credit
- Source findings
- Relationship to other works in the discipline

More information:

Purdue Writing Lab has some great tips, including samples in different formats – Google OWL Annotated Bibliography to explore! Or visit

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/common_writing_assignments/annotated_bibliographies/index.html