

Requirements and Recommendations for
the Annotated Bibliography/ Sources List Assignment
for Lisa Hager's ENG 1001 Class

bring with you for all peer review sessions, whether inside or outside of class

The next step towards your research paper is the annotated bibliography, in which your group will analyze **3 sources**. The annotated bibliography will help you get started on the research paper by helping you to evaluate the credibility and accuracy of your sources, the connections between and amongst sources, and their usefulness for your topic. Your goal is to establish ethos and logos through a familiarity with your topic and a **variety of viewpoints** on the issue.

Ask these kind of critical questions of your sources:

What is the author's purpose? Agenda? Does the author/source take a particular viewpoint? Is it limited/logical/biased/politically motivated? Does the author use sufficient data to support his/her argument? Whom is the intended audience? What are the author's credentials? Is he/she credible? You also need to think about how the sources relate to one another. Putting the sources in dialogue with each other will help you make the transition to the synthesis paper. How does each source add to what you have read, and how does it differ from/compare to the other works?

Format

These 3 sources must be from the last 10 years, though ideally they should be as recent as possible (i.e. the last 5 years). Remember that scientific sources tend to date quickly; if you do not have the latest sources, your credibility as a writer will suffer. You will need to list the sources alphabetically according to MLA format **It is your responsibility to look this up in the *The Writer's Resource* and to use the proper format.** Beneath each listing, you should include a paragraph (approximately 200 words) explaining your evaluation of the source. Please double-space.

Your must do **all** of the following steps in each annotation:

1. Summarize the source's thesis
2. Analyze the source's credibility
3. Relate each source to the other sources. (What do they have in common? How do they differ?)
4. Explain each source's usefulness to your topic/tentative thesis

Kinds/Types of Sources

The sources should primarily be comprised of serious, scholarly articles. You may have only one website, but it must be authoritative and credible (e.g. The American Heart Association if you are researching heart disease or the FDA if you are doing drug research; think .gov and .org, not .com). In addition, you may have only one popular periodical or trade source (e.g. the *New York Times*). The popular source still need to be a quality popular source (the *NY Times* is a much better newspaper than *USA Today*). **The remaining other source (or all three sources, if your wish) must be from a scholarly journal** (think ASP or OMNI file) or book. Keep in mind that journal articles contain more up-to-date research than books, particularly in the sciences and social sciences.

Each annotation will be accorded 5 points (with the most possible points for the whole assignment being 15): one point for each of the four steps, plus one point for grammar and style. However, your group's annotated bibliography must meet the global criteria as to a range of sources to receive an "A."