

Annotated Bibliographies for Term Papers

Format

You should begin with the abstract/proposal/summary of the paper you are going to write to give the bibliography context. Then the bulk of the annotated bibliography should list the sources you expect to use in writing your paper. For each source, provide a 2-3 sentence summary of the source (in your own words) and a short statement describing how this source will inform the writing of the paper. You should not copy the summary from the database

Evaluation

Your bibliography will be evaluated on both the quality and the quantity of your sources. Quantity will be evaluated based on my judgment of whether you've done sufficient research; please do not simply list more sources in order to increase the quantity. Quality has to do with the reliability of your sources as well as how well they seem to fit your topic.

Research

Use the various database searches available on the Library website and/or use a search engine (e.g. google.com) to find sources. The former is generally more productive since it is more likely to lead to reliable sources. You might find it helpful to consult the Research Desk in the Library for help finding and evaluating sources.

Internet Resources

Generally speaking, the sources you cite in a paper should not all be Internet sources; you should also find information from journal articles and/or books. By *Internet source*, I mean an article or webpage that is not peer-reviewed or published elsewhere. Examples include blogs, message forums, "answer" or "how-to" sites, organization websites, many online news sites, etc.

Many of the articles you will find will come from the Internet, but they are not "Internet sources" if they are "published" somewhere. If you aren't sure whether or not a source is an Internet source, go to the Research Desk in the Library and they should be able to help you figure it out.

When using Internet sources, *you must state why you have reason to believe the source is trustworthy*. The *Center for Research and Writing* has resources to help with writing (linked from the Library website, or go to <http://www.hope.edu/lib/cwr/resources.html>), including resources to help you evaluate online sources.

Citations

You may be encouraged by librarians/professors to include some extraneous information in your citations. For example, the following messy citation is cut-and-pasted from an *Academic OneFile* database search:

1. Bishop, Kyle William. "Vacationing in Zombieland: the classical functions of the modern zombie comedy." *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts* 22.1 (2011): 24+. *Academic OneFile*. Web. 1 Oct. 2012.
Document URL
http://0-go.galegroup.com.lib.hope.edu/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CA257434942&v=2.1&u=lom_hopecl&it=r&p=AONE&sw=w

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Unfortunately, this reference is cluttered with information that is not that helpful and not really relevant. For instance, the part that reads “*Academic OneFile*. Web. 1 Oct. 2012.” is stating the database you used to find the reference and the date you accessed it. Further, the “Document URL” is the URL for the page in the database you are looking at. Neither of these is directly related to the original article. Omit this extraneous information. Often this will include everything after the page number(s) or possibly the year, but consult the Research Desk in the Library if you aren’t sure what is part of the original reference.

So, you should list the one from the example above as:

1. Bishop, Kyle William. "Vacationing in Zombieland: the classical functions of the modern zombie comedy." *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts* 22.1 (2011): 24+.