Annotated Bibliography

**You must include an annotated bibliography as part of the Research component of your ELO.*

WHAT IS AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY? An annotated bibliography is a list of citations to books, articles, and documents. Each citation is followed by a brief (usually about 150 words) descriptive and evaluative paragraph, the annotation. The purpose of the annotation is to inform the reader of the relevance, accuracy, and quality of the sources cited.

THE PROCESS Creating an annotated bibliography calls for the application of a variety of intellectual skills: concise exposition, succinct analysis, and informed library research.

First, locate and record citations to books, periodicals, and documents that may contain useful information and ideas on your topic. Briefly examine and review the actual items. Then choose those works that provide a variety of perspectives on your topic.

Cite the book, article, or document using the appropriate style. Save yourself some time, and use EasyBib, or any other source citing sites.

Write a concise annotation that summarizes the central theme and scope of the book or article. Include one or more sentences that;

(a) Evaluates the authority or background of the author

(b) Comment on the intended audience

(c) Compare or contrast this work with others you have cited

(d) Explain how this work illuminates your bibliography topic

SAMPLE ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ENTRY FOR A JOURNAL ARTICLE

The following example uses the APA format for the journal citation.

> **Waite, L. J., Goldschneider, F. K., & Witsberger, C. (1986). Nonfamily living and the erosion of traditional family orientations among young adults. *American Sociological Review,* 51 (4), 541-554.**

The authors, researchers at the Rand Corporation and Brown University, use data from the National Longitudinal Surveys of Young Women and Young Men to test their hypothesis that nonfamily living by young adults alters their attitudes, values, plans, and expectations, moving them away from their belief in traditional sex roles. They find their hypothesis strongly supported in young females, while the effects were fewer in studies of young males. Increasing the time away from parents before marrying increased individualism, self-sufficiency, and changes in attitudes about families. In contrast, an earlier study by Williams cited below shows no significant gender differences in sex role attitudes as a result of nonfamily living.

These example uses the MLA format for the journal citation. NOTE: Standard MLA practice requires double spacing within citations.

Waite, Linda J., Frances Kobrin Goldscheider, and Christina Witsberger. "Nonfamily Living and the Erosion of Traditional Family Orientations Among Young Adults." *American Sociological Review* 51.4 (1986): 541-554. Print.

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Than, Ker. "Jacques Cousteau Centennial: What He Did, Why He Matters." *National Geographic Daily News*. National Geographic, 11 June 2010. Web. 25 Mar. 2012 news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2010/06/100611-jacques-cousteau-100th-anniversary-birthday-legacy-google.

This article for National Geographic News celebrates what would have been the 100th birthday of ocean exploration pioneer Jacques Cousteau. The article overviews five of Cousteau's major achievements: pioneering scuba equipment, creating underwater film footage to bring the ocean to millions of viewers, inventing underwater base camps, restricting commercial whaling, and helping to stop the underwater dumping of nuclear waste. The main point of the article is that Cousteau started out as an explorer, not an environmentalist. As he grew to further understand the ways that humans were harming the beautiful underwater world that he devoted his life to exploring, he became more outspoken about protecting it. He was one of the first to speak out about ocean preservation; even though he also contributed to harming ocean ecosystems earlier in his career, he ended up as a true activist. This source is widely respected in the scientific community.

The Cousteau Society. "Who We Are." *Homepage*. 2012. Web. 25 Mar. 2012. www.cousteau.org/about-us/who-we-are.

This site describes and provides connections to two non-for profit societies founded by Cousteau which continue to operate in his memory. The Cousteau Society is a worldwide organization which sponsors exploration, education, and protection efforts surrounding water systems. Equipe Cousteau, a sister society, is headquartered in France for the same purposes, and to help establish Cousteau's home nation as a world leader in ocean preservation. This site is a wealth of information regarding Cousteau's legacy, as it chronicles the efforts that continue to be applied today, all over the world, to protect water ecosystems with Jacques Cousteau as a founder and inspiration. Clearly, it will be more biased than other sources in that it celebrates Cousteau's legacy and will not be critical of his actions.