



## Annotated Bibliographies:

An annotated bibliography is a list of citations to books, articles, and documents. Each and every citation is and should be followed by a brief descriptive and evaluative paragraph, ranging from 100 to 200 words. The purpose of the annotation is to inform the audience/reader of the relevance, accuracy, and quality of the sources used and cited within ones work. Annotations are descriptive and critical; they expose the author's point of view and appropriateness of expression and authority, whereas abstracts are descriptive summaries.

## What is the difference between Annotations and Abstracts?

**Abstracts** are nothing more than descriptive summaries, which are usually found at the beginning of scholarly journal articles and or in periodical indexes. **Annotations** are descriptive and critical paragraphs that expose the author's point of view.

Below is a list of links to online sources, which provide examples and a thorough understanding of what **annotated bibliographies** are and how to create annotated bibliographies.

- <http://www.library.cornell.edu/olinuris/ref/research/skill28.htm>  
This site was created and maintained by Cornell University. The site provides in-depth information in regards to understanding and preparing annotated pathfinders and bibliographies. This is a very comprehensive and informative site, which provides sample annotations.
- [http://www.library.mun.ca/guides/howto/annotated\\_bibl.php](http://www.library.mun.ca/guides/howto/annotated_bibl.php)  
This site is maintained by Memorial University Libraries. The site provides information on how to write annotations, descriptive annotations, critical annotations and annotated bibliographies. It also provides sample annotations and bibliographies.
- [http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/AnnBib\\_content.html](http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/AnnBib_content.html)  
This site is maintained by the University of Wisconsin-Madison Writing Center. The site provides examples of some of the most common forms of annotated bibliographies, and goes into detail about writing styles and content.
- [http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/annotated\\_bibliographies.html](http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/annotated_bibliographies.html)  
This site is provided by the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Writing Center. It provides in-depth information about what annotated bibliographies are, the basic elements and it provides examples.

## Books that can be found in the Information Sciences Library

- The Ready Reference Handbook (PE1408.D595 2003)
- On Compiling an Annotated Bibliography (Z1001.H33 2000)
- MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (REF LB2369.G53 2003)
- APA Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (REF BF76.7 P83 2001)