

Annotated Bibliography

What is it?

It is an organized list of sources used for research which **includes a summary or evaluation**. It may contain some of the following, depending on the assignment. **Always get specific instructions from your instructor.**

- Description of content
- Currency (Timeliness)
- Limitations of the article
- Evaluation of research methods
- Author's credentials
- Usefulness of the information
- Organization of the study
- Intended audience
- Reliability of results
- Discussion of the study's conclusion
- Your reaction

How is it compiled?

Based on the assignment, follow these steps:

- Determine **how many** and what **types of sources** you need.
- Locate the sources in the research databases, accessed from the Library Services webpage.
 - Select "peer-reviewed" or "scholarly journals" on the database search screen.
 - Select full-text articles if not already selected.
 - Look for articles that are longer (6 or more pages).
- Read and analyze the information in the articles.
- Write your citations and annotations **as specified by your instructor**.
- Example below may be shorter or longer than your assignment calls for. This is just a guideline.

What does it look like?

The format can vary based on the assignment, but generally:

- If annotating more than one article, the entries are given in alphabetical order by the first word of the **citation**.
- The bibliographic information (author, title, journal name, etc.) is either in MLA or APA format, as indicated by the instructor who assigned it.
- After the citation, the summary follows, double spaced, written in paragraph form (length determined by instructor).

Example (APA format)

Naiman, A. Glazier, R. H. & Moineddin, R. (2010). Association of anti-smoking legislation with rates of hospital admission for cardiovascular and respiratory conditions. *CMAJ: Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 182, 761-767.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1503/cmaj.091130>

This research article discusses the impact that anti-smoking legislation has had on hospital admissions in Toronto, Canada, specifically admissions related to certain cardiovascular and respiratory conditions. Since tobacco use has been clearly demonstrated in prior studies to be detrimental to the health of users and those in close proximity to users, the study is a call to increase public health initiatives if further studies corroborate these findings.

Previous studies had already provided evidence that smoking bans help reduce myocardial infarction rates. This study added five additional conditions which are the most common admissions in these areas (cardiovascular and respiratory). This study will be especially helpful to public health officials, and those involved in health policy.

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