INFORMATION LITERACY PROGRAM
of Robert W. Sterling Sr. Memorial Library

What is an annotated bibliography?

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What is an annotated bibliography?

An *annotated bibliography* is a list of books or other materials that includes a 100 – 300 descriptive and evaluative comment in paragraph form.

There are two components to an annotated bibliography: the **Citation** and the **Annotation**.

What to include in an annotated bibliography:

An annotation may include the following information:
- A brief summary of the source
- The source's strengths and weaknesses
- Its conclusions
- Why the source is relevant in your field of study
- Its relationships to other studies in the field
- An evaluation of the research methodology (if applicable)
- Information about the author's background
- Your personal conclusions about the source

How do I format citations?

Follow the instructions given to you in your syllabus or by your instructor. The default writing format at NVIT is APA. The citation and annotation are double-spaced.

Example of APA style format (6th edition) for an Annotated Bibliography:

- Hanging Indents are required for citations in the bibliography, as shown below. That is, the first line of the citation starts at the left margin, and subsequent lines of the citation are indented 4 spaces.
- The annotation is indented 2 additional spaces, as a block.

D'Elia, G., Jorgensen, C., Woelfel, J., & Rodger, E. J. (2002). The impact of the Internet on public library use: An analysis of the current consumer market for library and Internet services. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, 53*(10), 808-820.

> In this study, the researchers examined if the Internet had affected public library usage in the United States. This study is distinct because its researchers surveyed library nonusers as well as users. The major finding was that 75.2% of people who used the Internet also used the public library. However, the researchers surveyed only 3000 individuals in a population of millions; therefore, these results may not be statistically significant. However, this study is relevant because it provides future researchers with a methodology for determining the impact of the Internet on public library usage.

http://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/writing/annotated-bibliography
http://www.apastyle.org/