

STEM/AP Research (Ugly) Annotated Bibliography II

DEADLINE: Submit your work to Turnitin by 11:59 pm Friday, Oct. 17

As you’ve refined your research question and explored a variety of source material, your familiarity with and understanding of your particular field of inquiry has grown. Part of this process has been seeking a

“broad range of perspectives and scholarly sources”

that you have used to inform yourself: differences of opinion; differing approaches; differing levels of objectivity and subjectivity and bias. A huge part of the AP Research process (notice the capital “R” in research) is performing **authentic inquiry**. We cannot stop with only material that supports our suppositions and predetermined hopes; now, it’s time for you to refine your bibliography through thorough **analysis**, **evaluation**, and the beginning stages of **synthesis** of your reference materials.

Your task is to create an

“annotated bibliography that outlines the scholarly source materials used and how the materials offer information and views relating to the question. Your annotated bibliography demonstrates comprehensiveness as exhibited by breadth, relevance, currency, availability, and authority within chosen resources, using the discipline-specific style common to the field of study.”

This complex language sets our expectations. You’ve seen literature reviews in the scholarly sources you’ve used to start your inquiry. **This assignment will help you create a working draft of *your* literature review.** Let’s parse out the language above to clarify the expectations for this assignment:

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| in depth literature review <i>“In depth” comes from the specificity of your resources and the quality of your annotations. “Review” carries evaluative overtones (see breadth bullet for more).</i> | information and views relating to the question <i>Always, always, always tie your resources back to your research question. How does this inform your question? Your inquiry process, method, or approach?</i> | breadth, relevance, currency, availability, and authority <i>This comes through in your discussion of your reference material. Why these sources and not others? Be honest, objective, and specific in your evaluation of each source.</i> |
| outlines <i>However, your discussion of each source needs to be clear and efficient. Paraphrase, use bullets and subbullets. Organize the content. Organize your thoughts. This is not a time to be verbose: be specific, accurate, and objective about the value of each source.</i> | demonstrates comprehensiveness <i>This does not mean you need to read everything written about your subject—just everything that is relevant to the conversation you are entering. Leave no angle unexamined.</i> | discipline-specific style <i>You must maintain APA format for your list of references. Each citation needs to be accurate and complete. However, your annotations should look more like organized research notes. Be sure you are addressing all the aspects of this assignment described in this chart.</i> |

Assignment Formatting

Not to confuse you all, but this is an Ugly Annotated Bibliography. It's more of a working document than a polished perfection. You are expected to fully document each source in APA format, listed alphabetically, with annotations under each source entry.

Your annotations do not need to follow the strict APA guidelines for the summary, evaluation, and reflection. Instead, you will build a **working document** for your literature review, titled "Annotated Bibliography II."

Ultimately, the literature review section of your STEM/AP Research Paper serves a number of functions for you, your research, and your audience. A successful literature review

- establishes the credibility of the work you produce;
- engages the audience in an ongoing conversation;
- provides logical support for the process or method you select;
- delivers necessary contextual information to the reader; and
- places the work within the frame of a larger body of material.

Take your time with this weighty task. Seek help as needed. Enjoy getting to know your field even more intimately than you did before!

IMPORTANT: Your annotated bibliography is a keystone in the foundation of your STEM/AP Research Project. While you may make changes or alterations along the way as dictated by necessity, it is absolutely vital that at every stage you commit to finding the most pertinent, high-quality information you can.

How many sources is enough? Top scoring papers run 15-25+ sources. Are you on track to achieve this standard? If not, contact your teacher for help!

Worried about finding and keeping track of sources? Evaluating information? Following the standards of your discipline? Deciding what to incorporate? See your teacher for help!

"Bernard of Chartres used to compare us to dwarfs perched on the shoulders of giants. He pointed out that we see more and farther than our predecessors, not because we have keener vision or greater height, but because we are lifted up and borne aloft on their gigantic stature."

—John of Salisbury, *Metalogicon*