

What is a Bibliography? A list of sources that contain information about a particular topic.

What is an Annotation? A brief note that describes the importance of a source in a few sentences. An annotation is a note that explains, describes or evaluates the cited source.

Example: an annotation for an article might summarize the article; evaluate its usefulness; or criticize the article.

What is a Citation? A citation gives the precise information needed to locate the material. Example: a citation for a magazine article might include: the article title; author; magazine title; volume; pages; and date.

So, an annotated citation might look like this:

Presley, Elvis A. "My Life on the Run." Fugitive Magazine. 29 July 1997: 4-9. Documents Presley's travels in North America. Includes tips on how to elude fans.

How to compile an ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY?

Consider the scope of your bibliography -- how many and what types of sources are needed? This will probably have been defined in your assignment. Locate the sources and analyze the information contained in each source. Write your citations according to the format specified by your instructor and add annotations.

Where to find SOURCES:

Library catalog - an online catalog to search for books in your library.

Electronic article databases - computer tools for locating magazine, journal, & newspaper articles.

Internet - Use caution! You should be able to prove to your instructor that the information you have found on the internet is valid.

How to write an ANNOTATION:

Understand the information value of the material to be annotated. When analyzing a source, consider:

- Purpose -- what is the source trying to do?
- Form -- is it a book or an article or a...?
- Arrangement -- how is the source organized?
- Audience -- who is the source aimed at?
- Authority -- is the author/publisher reliable?
- Currency -- is the source up-to-date?
- Coverage -- is the source comprehensive?

*Do you have Questions? Contact the Reference Desk at Pearsall Library for answers.

Reference Phone: 252-985-5350

Reference Email: reference@ncwc.edu