

## Annotated Bibliography

The purpose of an annotated bibliography is simple: To keep you focused on selecting relevant and useful sources. Essentially, annotated bibliographies are your brief notes (annotations) on the sources that you intend to use (bibliography).

With an annotated bibliography, you avoid wasting time on sources that don't add value to your work.

### Creating an annotated bibliography entry

If your instructor requires an annotated bibliography, prioritize their assignment requirements. Otherwise, the structure for an annotated bib is straightforward.

For each source, provide two things:

1. **Citation:** Cite the source in the style you'd use for your "references" (APA) or "works cited" (MLA) page.
2. **Paragraph of summary & evaluation**
  - a. **Summary:** Summarize the source—describe the source's purpose, key points, and the significant findings/conclusions.
  - b. **Evaluation:** Discuss the source's strengths, weaknesses, and usefulness for your research/argument—for instance, Does it provide a unique perspective? What value might it add?

#### ADDITIONAL FEATURES:

- Alphabetize your list.
- Use hanging indentation.
- Be clear and direct.
- Write about 150 words for each source.
- Begin your annotation on the next line, underneath your citation.

### Sample annotated bibliography entry (APA)

Gershonhorn, J. (2005). Stalling integration: The ruse, rise, and demise of North Carolina College's doctoral program in education, 1951-1962." *North Carolina Historical Review*, 82(2), 156-192.

This article explores the historical context and experiences of North Carolina College (NCC) during the period of 1951-1962. It focuses on the integration of its doctoral program in education. Gershonhorn discusses the complex dynamics that unfolded as the college tried to integrate its education program in the face of resistance and challenges from the South's hostile culture of segregation. The author highlights the school's strategies to sidestep segregationist pressures while working towards integration. The study examines the racial politics and the opposition faced by African American educational institutions seeking to expand opportunities for Black scholars. However, because the study focuses on a specific institution and a particular time frame, the findings might not apply to other universities or regions. Nevertheless, this article provides valuable insights into the history of desegregation efforts in southern universities, highlighting the obstacles and compromises faced by institutions like NCC in their pursuit of educational equality.