Annotated Bibliography in APA Format

Student's Name

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The APA manual, 6th edition (2010), does not specifically address the format of annotated bibliographies. Instead, a compilation of general rules for APA must be applied to create an annotated bibliography. The following list contains general guidelines from the APA manual that were used in formatting this sample annotated bibliography:

- Double space the entire document (APA, 8.03, p. 229, "line spacing")
- Use Times New Roman with 12-point font size (APA, 8.03, p. 228)
- Format each reference according to examples in APA, Chapter 7, pp. 193-224
- Alphabetize references (APA, 6.25, pp. 181-183)

Of course, your professor's instructions take precedence; follow the guidelines set forth in your assignment directions if they differ from the following sample.

Abstract

The following annotated bibliography includes an abbreviated list of references that address how to create annotated bibliographies in APA format. Examples of websites, books, and journal articles related to annotated bibliographies are included among the references along with hyperlinks to the online resources. It is the hope of the Online Writing Center at Liberty University that this sample annotated bibliography will serve as a template for students formatting their own annotated bibliographies.

Keywords: annotated bibliography, APA format, Liberty University

Abstracts are not always required by professors for an annotated bibliography. If an abstract is required, however, it should follow the sample format on this page.

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Bethel University. (2013). *Creating APA style annotated bibliographies, 6th edition.* Retrieved

from https://www.bethel.edu/library/research/apa-annobib-sixth.pdf

This is an excellent resource for creating annotated bibliographies in APA format, 6th

edition. It offers guidelines for writing annotations and a sample annotated bibliography.

Bisignani, D., & Brizee, A. (2013, March 10). *Annotated bibliographies*. Retrieved

from https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01/

These authors from Purdue University's Online Writing Lab present a brief definition of

an annotated bibliography and a description of the important elements to include in one.

They also provide many examples in various formats, each with detailed explanations.

This is a good reference for how to develop an "annotation" for any researcher. (Please

note: It is not standard APA procedure to include the month and day of publication;

however, because this site is continually updated, March 10, 2013, indicates the last date

the information was edited.)

Eckstein, D. (2011). Reflections on an 18-year adventure writing for "For Couples" *Family

Journal* column: An annotated bibliography. *The Family Journal: Counseling and

Therapy for Couples and Families, 19*(2), 204-211. doi:10.1177/1066480711400568

This article illustrates how annotated bibliographies can be used in academic journals.

Because it is a longer bibliography, the author chose to organize the references

thematically, using subheadings to separate the different subjects covered in the

references. All references are set in APA format, making this article a nice example of an

annotated bibliography in APA.

Engle, M., Blumenthal, A., & Cosgrave, T. (2012, September 25). *How to prepare an annotated bibliography.* Retrieved from http://olinuris.library.cornell.edu/print/3187

This website offers descriptions and examples of annotated bibliographies in both MLA and APA format and contains a link to the Spanish translation of the information.

Harner, J. L. (2000). *On compiling an annotated bibliography* (2nd ed.). New York, NY: The Modern Language Association of America.

This is the standard for any researcher producing an annotated bibliography. This pamphlet offers valuable information from planning the research to organizing the annotated bibliography. The author provides several examples and offers instruction regarding their creation. Although this is written for those using MLA format, the sections on annotations are valuable for researchers working in APA format.