THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Writing Centre

Annotated Bibliography

Definition: An annotated bibliography is a **list of reference materials** on a particular topic that includes a **brief description** of each source, and **often** a **justification or evaluation** to promote the source's inclusion in a research project.

An annotated bibliography entry includes the following:
- a complete and correct citation of the book, article, or other source material
- a summary of the author's purpose, or thesis
- a summary of methodology (*how* the research was conducted)
- a summary of the results
- a comment on the relevance or validity of the work/findings to your own paper

Here is an example of an annotated bibliography entry in APA Style (7th edition):

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. https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.10102

In this study, the researchers examined whether the Internet has 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. Still, this study is

relevant because it provides future researchers with a methodology for determining the

impact of the Internet on public library usage.

*Note: Follow the format rules for whichever citation style you are using.