

Welcome! This video is brought to you by the Writing Centre at the UNF Library. Today's topic: What is an Annotated Bibliography.

Have you ever struggled to keep track of all your sources when working on a paper? Or found it hard to explain why a source is actually useful? Well you're not alone—and luckily, there's a tool that can help. It not only keeps your research organized, but also helps you think more critically about the information you're using.

An annotated bibliography is a list of sources—such as books, articles, and documents—accompanied by a brief descriptive and evaluative paragraph, known as an annotation.

In academic writing, annotated bibliographies show your instructor that you've engaged thoughtfully with your research. They help you build stronger arguments by choosing credible sources.

During the research process, annotated bibliographies help you keep track of what each source says, why it's relevant, and how it connects to your topic. This makes it easier to organize your ideas when writing your paper and it also makes writing your paper easier later on.

Annotated bibliographies also help you evaluate your sources—so you can decide which ones are useful, which ones to skip, and how they fit into your assignment.

So, why is writing an annotated bibliography important when it comes to your academic writing?

Writing an annotated bibliography can help you strengthen your research and writing skills. It helps you think critically, analyze your sources, and clarify your direction before you start writing. Annotated bibliographies help you learn to avoid relying on untrustworthy information. They also make your final writing process smoother by clarifying your research path early on.

So, let's quickly recap what we've covered.

An annotated bibliography is more than just a list of sources — it includes short paragraphs that summarize and evaluate each one.

It's a great organizational tool that can help you keep track of your sources and organize your ideas so that you can understand the focus of your paper.

Writing an annotated bibliography can help you think critically and analyze your sources clearly.

By writing one, you're not just collecting information — you're learning how each source fits your topic and deciding what's actually useful. It's also a great way to avoid unreliable sources and make your writing process much smoother later on.

Now that you know what an annotated bibliography is and why it matters, you're probably wondering how to actually write one. In the next video, we'll walk through the steps — from organizing your paper to writing strong, effective annotations.

We'll also look example annotations and analyze them which will help to guide your writing.

Thank you for watching!

For more info, check out our Annotated Bibliography Guide by scanning the QR code.

You can also book a one-on-one session with a writing advisor [here](#).

Visit the Library website to learn more about the services the Writing Centre offers or email the Writing Centre for support if you have any additional questions.