Annotated / Critical Bibliographies

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Book an appointment: https://libcal.macewan.ca/appointments/jody
Resources: libguides.macewan.ca/robbins/AnnotatedBib_Nursing

Photo by Tirachard Kumtanom from Pexels
What is an annotated bibliography?

A writing format that mashes up 2 elements:

(1) a citation (or a list of citations) with...
(2) annotations (descriptive + critically evaluative paragraphs, ~300-400 words each)
Are annotations & abstracts the same thing?

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Abstracts tend to be...
- Purely descriptive summaries of main points

Annotations usually include other elements..
- Descriptive summaries
  + Evaluation
- Critical analysis
- Consideration of relevance

Purpose of your annotated bibliography:

As individual contributors to your group...

- Review the peer-reviewed literature on your group topic
- Select a relevant primary research article published in a peer-reviewed journal.
- Write an annotation that briefly describes the main points, evaluates the source in context, assesses the study methodology and comments on value and relevance.

Ken Battle draws on a close study of government documents, as well as his own research as an extensively-published policy analyst, to explain Canadian child benefit programs. He outlines some fundamental assumptions supporting the belief that all society members should contribute to the upbringing of children. His comparison of child poverty rates in a number of countries is a useful wake-up to anyone assuming Canadian society is doing a good job of protecting children. Battle pays particular attention to the National Child Benefit (NCB), arguing that it did not deserve to be criticized by politicians and journalists. He outlines the NCB’s development, costs, and benefits, and laments that the Conservative government scaled it back in favour of the inferior Universal Child Care Benefit (UCCB). However, he relies too heavily on his own work; he is the sole or primary author of almost half the sources in his bibliography. He could make this work stronger by drawing from others' perspectives and analyses. However, Battle does offer a valuable source for this essay, because the chapter provides a concise overview of government-funded assistance currently available to parents. This offers context for analyzing the scope and financial reality of child poverty in Canada.
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*Evaluation / assessment.*

*Note:* Your annotations look at primary research studies & must include critical analysis of methodology.
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Relevance. What does it contribute to knowledge in this area? How useful is it to your project?

This article reports on a program evaluation of the Toronto Centre for Substance use in Pregnancy (T-CUP) program in Toronto which is an intervention program for women who are pregnant and have an addiction. The program is run through a family medical clinic and includes comprehensive obstetrical, addiction and case management services provided on a self-referral basis. The program is centered in harm reduction and women centered care and utilizes an interprofessional team. Results from the program (N=121) show improved maternal and neonatal outcomes, increased family preservation and decreased substance use. Compared to other programs in Canada they have earlier onset and longer term involvement with the women which might be related to its accessibility or could be related to the demographics of who they serve. The study was done using chart review which could limit accuracy of data. This type of intervention could work for our target population but it was done with a group of women with a wider range of socioeconomic status where only 8% were homeless compared to 44% in our target population.
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**Missing: Author experience / background / qualifications?**

**Missing: article appraisal / assessment of methodology!**
Writing your annotations.

- (APA Citation - not included in word count)
- **Succinct summary (brief)**
  - Identify & describe main points, purpose, and conclusions
  - **Tip:** Try to combine multiple ideas within single sentence(s)
  - OWL at Purdue, Writing for Conciseness [https://goo.gl/u9b344](https://goo.gl/u9b344)
- **Evaluation: Assessment & Analysis**
  - Analysis should go beyond reported “limitations” of study; identify weaknesses (& strengths), reliability, bias, intended audience, generalizability / usefulness
  - Demonstrate critical analysis
- **Comment on relevance**
  - Value to research question (what does it add?), usefulness for group project
Critical analysis of primary research studies:

- Critical appraisal tools & checklists:
  - Examples: [http://www.casp-uk.net/casp-tools-checklists](http://www.casp-uk.net/casp-tools-checklists) [https://joannabriggs.org/critical_appraisal_tools](https://joannabriggs.org/critical_appraisal_tools)
  - Tip: Use questions to guide analysis / assessment of articles
- Writing that demonstrates critical analysis
- Useful verbs and phrases...
Critical analysis of primary research studies

CASP Checklist: 10 questions to help you make sense of a Qualitative research

How to use this appraisal tool: Three broad issues need to be considered when appraising a qualitative study:

- Are the results of the study valid? (Section A)
- What are the results? (Section B)
- Will the results help locally? (Section C)

The 10 questions on the following pages are designed to help you think about these issues
Critical analysis of primary research studies

QUALITY ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR QUANTITATIVE STUDIES

COMPONENT RATINGS

A) SELECTION BIAS

(Q1) Are the individuals selected to participate in the study likely to be representative of the target population?
1. Very likely
2. Somewhat likely
3. Not likely
4. Can't tell

(Q2) What percentage of selected individuals agreed to participate?
1. 80 - 100% agreement
2. 60 - 79% agreement
3. Less than 60% agreement
4. Not applicable
5. Can't tell

RATE THIS SECTION  STRONG  MODERATE  WEAK
See dictionary  1  2  3

B) STUDY DESIGN

Indicate the study design
1. Randomized controlled trial
2. Controlled clinical trial
How to critique sources? Useful verbs & phrases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>account for</th>
<th>clarify</th>
<th>describe</th>
<th>exemplify</th>
<th>indicate</th>
<th>question</th>
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<tr>
<td>analyze</td>
<td>compare</td>
<td>depict</td>
<td>exhibit</td>
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<td>defend</td>
<td>evaluate</td>
<td>identify</td>
<td>narrate</td>
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<td>assume</td>
<td>define</td>
<td>emphasize</td>
<td>illustrate</td>
<td>persuade</td>
<td>review</td>
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<td>claim</td>
<td>demonstrate</td>
<td>examine</td>
<td>imply</td>
<td>propose</td>
<td>suggest</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The evidence indicates that . . .

The article assesses the effect of . . .

The author identifies three reasons for . . .

The article questions the view that . . .

Check your assignment details!

- Title page
- APA Citation
- Annotation of 300-400 words, not including citation:
  - Succinct summary, description of methodology
  - Assessment (source) & analysis (reliability, validity, bias, etc.)
  - Commentary on relevance, value, and usefulness
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Exceeds Expectations</th>
<th>Meets Expectations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>APA Citation (5)</strong></td>
<td>Source is cited in APA format with no errors (5)</td>
<td>All citation elements are present; however 1-2 formatting infractions are present (3-4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Descriptive Component (25)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Succinct and comprehensive summary</strong> of the main points and/or purpose of the source; succinct overview of the arguments and evidence addressed in the work; resulting conclusion is noted; thorough and accurate description of authors’ methodology or approach (20-25)</td>
<td>Summary is not succinctly stated; most main points of the source are included; arguments and evidence in the work are not succinctly or accurately stated; conclusion is not accurately noted; inaccurate description of author’s methodology or approach (13-19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evaluative Component/“Critique” (50)</strong></td>
<td>Clear articulation of strengths and weaknesses of the source; reliability of the source is assessed; biases are identified, if present, and are clearly articulated; other evaluation criteria (e.g., audience, currency, accuracy, etc.) is discussed (45-50)</td>
<td>Identifies strengths and weaknesses of the source, however these are not consistently and clearly articulated; biases, if present, are not clearly articulated; other evaluation criteria (e.g., audience, currency, accuracy, etc.) are superficially discussed (26-44)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nots Value/Relevance (10)</strong></td>
<td>Clear articulation of the worth, effectiveness, and usefulness of the source in terms of development of the poster component of the group project (9-10)</td>
<td>Superficial, inaccurate, or partial assessment of how the source will be utilized for the poster component of the group project (8-6)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mechanics and Grammar (9)</strong></td>
<td>Writing is clear and concise; no misspellings, typos or grammatical errors (9)</td>
<td>Writing is clear and concise; few misspellings, typos or grammatical errors (6-8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Word Count (1)</strong></td>
<td>Within word count limitation (1)</td>
<td>Exceeds word count ≤ 25 words (0.5)</td>
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Annotated bibliography ‘how to’ resources:

University of Toronto (annotated bibliography writing):
https://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/types-of-writing/annotated-bibliography/

James Cook University (Step-by-Step Guide):
https://libguides.macewan.ca/ld.php?content_id=34150953

OWL at Purdue (annotated bibliographies & writing for conciseness):
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/common_writing_assignments/annotated_bibliographies/index.html
Resources:

Resource Links: [http://libguides.macewan.ca/robbins](http://libguides.macewan.ca/robbins)
- Annotated Bibliographies (Nursing): [https://goo.gl/2JjU1J](https://goo.gl/2JjU1J)
- NURS 372 (tips for finding & selecting primary research)
- Managing Citations - Zotero citation tool: [https://goo.gl/MGneR5](https://goo.gl/MGneR5)

Writing Centre, 7-112: [MacEwan.ca/WLS](http://MacEwan.ca/WLS)

Library: [http://library/macewan.ca/help](http://library/macewan.ca/help)

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Appointment calendar: [https://libcal.macewan.ca/appointments/jody](https://libcal.macewan.ca/appointments/jody)
Questions?

Jody Nelson, Nursing Librarian: jody.nelson@macewan.ca
Book an appointment: https://libcal.macewan.ca/appointments/jody

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