

Annotated Bibliography Project

- 1) Decide on your **research question**—ask your instructor for help if you are not sure if your question is appropriate (too broad, too narrow, etc.).
- 2) Find **the 7 best sources** related to your research question (**1 book, 3 database journal articles, and 3 websites**).
- 3) Put your sources in **MLA or APA citation format** and **alphabetize** them.
See the *Pocket Handbook*, online citation generators, and library handouts
- 4) **Describe:** Write a description of each source
 - a) Note who the author is and her credentials/background
 - b) State the author's thesis (look at introduction/abstract/preface)
 - c) Describe the main focus of the source (look at table of contents)
 - d) Is there anything that makes this source notable (does it have a useful bibliography, is it the most in-depth, etc.)
- 5) **Evaluate:** Write a critical evaluation of each source (**5 W's**)
 - a) Is the source accurate, reliable, or biased in any way?
 - b) How does it compare to other works on this topic?
 - c) Does the author back up his claims with evidence?
 - d) Is it written for a particular audience (scholars/gen. public)
 - e) What are the strengths and weaknesses of the source?
- 6) **Reflect:** Write about **your impressions** of the source and its **usefulness**
 - a) How will this source help you answer your research question or support your argument?
 - b) How did it change the way you think about your topic?
 - c) Your overall conclusions about this source.

*** See your instructor for additional word count and formatting guidelines.***