

UBC, Geography 419: Research in Environmental Geography.

David Brownstein.

January 18, 2012.

Annotated Bibliography Guidelines.

Due in class on **February 1, 2012**. This bibliography is worth 30% of your final grade. Please aim to evaluate a minimum of 18 peer reviewed sources.

An annotated bibliography gives an account of the research that has already been undertaken on a given topic. Make this webpage your first stop:
<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/specific-types-of-writing/annotated-bibliography>

Having selected a topic with your community partner, you are now ready to educate yourself about the issue in depth and evaluate what others have already written about it. Your task here is to identify references that will help you to write your paper. The most recent works will appear in the journal literature, but books and government reports will also be helpful. You may use internet sources in the very early stages of research but please do not include any of those in your bibliography (we will discuss the reasons for this in class). Locate a set of sources in the library and select a wide range providing a variety of perspectives. Electronic versions of journal articles are not considered websites for the purposes of the assignment.

Begin your bibliography with an updated or revised thesis or problem statement, incorporating my comments from your original proposal.

This will then be followed by your bibliography which will consist of a reference list. Each citation will be followed by a summary and appraisal (five to eight sentences would be a good start). The citation can be in any of the accepted academic formats, but please choose one and be consistent. Things to think about in your appraisal of each source would include:

- the authority or disciplinary background of the author
- the intended audience of the work
- a summary of the work's argument, methods, and conclusions (include strengths and weaknesses)
- biases, reliability of the source via sources they used, how they arrived at their conclusions
- a comparison with some of your other sources, and
- how the work gives you insight into your topic.

Ideally you won't have to do much more library research after compiling this bibliography, and the sources that you uncover and evaluate will be sufficient to write your final report.