

## **UBC, Geography 429: Research in Historical Geography.**

David Brownstein.

### *Annotated Bibliography Guidelines.*

Due online before class starts on **February 3, 2015**. This bibliography is worth 30% of your final grade. In two separate sections, please aim to evaluate a minimum of 12 secondary sources and as many relevant primary sources as you can locate.

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

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, government reports, and perhaps local histories 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.

As illustrated in the above url, your bibliography 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 should be in our agreed upon, Journal of Historical Geography, format. Things to think about in your appraisal of each source would include:

- how the work gives you insight into your topic
- 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 and
- a comparison with some of your other sources.

For primary sources, indicate where it is held, as well as some idea of the material (textual, photographs, etc). How will it give you insight into your topic? Is it extensive, or focused? Does the source give a great depth of insight? How does it relate to, and support, your other sources? Give an idea of how you found the material, and the ultimate role that it will play in your narrative, or argument. 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.