

Annotated Bibliography

An **annotated bibliography** is a list of sources, properly cited, that includes an annotation summarizing the text (in your own words) and its potential utility for your project. This last item is ultimately the most important: how is the source useful for you? You can figure that out by answering three questions: Where does it fit into your research area? What part of your argument is it relevant for? What ideas from it are you building on? What are its limitations for the purposes of your project?

Your list should be sorted alphabetically by the last name of the first author, and each entry should be cited in your discipline's citation system.

Possible Template:

Each entry should be in the format below; use that as a template and repeat for each source. Write 1-2 sentences for each item in the annotation.

Last, First Initial. (Year) Title of article. *Title of Journal*, volume #, pages. doi:

Summary of Argument:

Methodology of Study:

Evaluation of Conclusion:

Potential Usefulness for You:

Where is it most useful?

What are you building on from it?

What are its limitations for your project?

Example:

Ehrenreich, B. (2001). *Nickel and dimed: On (not) getting by in America*. New York: Henry Holt and Company.

Summary of Argument: Attempts to ascertain whether it is currently possible for an individual to live on a minimum-wage in America. Taking jobs as a waitress, a maid in a cleaning service, and a Walmart sales employee, the author summarizes and reflects on her work, her relationships with fellow workers, and her financial struggles in each situation.

Methodology of Study: Personal experiential research, journalism, supplemented by reference to scholarly research.

Evaluation of Conclusion: Acknowledges the limits of her own analysis — that it is a reflection based on personal experience and thus cannot be generalized. Nonetheless, it offers a good phenomenological account of what it is like to be among the working poor in America.

Potential Usefulness for You:

Where? Harms section, gives phenomenological account of the experience of being poor — lends impact to statistics.

Building on? Cycle of working class poverty concept is useful for my intervention.

Limitations? She deals with many employment contexts, while my work is only focused on farm workers.