

## **WR 122: Annotated Bibliography Assignment (due, Sunday, April 27 at 8:00 to turnitin.com)**

**Purpose:** This assignment will familiarize you with the current debatable conversations on your topic (from reputable publications) in preparation for writing your Researched Argument Essay. For this assignment, you must make sure you have 12-15 viable sources that will help you write the Researched Argument Essay. Thus you will need sources that do the following:

- Help you explain the origins/background of your issue (when did it start, who is involved).
- Help you find (and eventually support) your own thesis/position on the issue.
- Help you explain the opposition and argue against them (If you're still unsure of your position, then make sure you have sources that represent several different positions).

**Sources:** What types of sources should be included in the annotated bibliography?

Credible, valid, academic sources from higher tier journals are ideal. That said, it sometimes depends on your specific topic and approach. It is entirely possible that an outstanding article from the *New York Times* or *Atlantic Monthly* will be relevant to your essay. These just cannot constitute **all** of your sources. Sources without an author or a date, or sources from websites with no valid organizational support, are usually not seen as credible as sources from relevant publications, written by real people with expertise. Keep that in mind when choosing the sources you will actually cite in your essay.

**Requirements.** Your annotated bibliography:

- is correctly formatted in MLA style (header, page numbering, double spacing, etc. Please use code names, as always)—if you have questions about formatting, web page link for “sample annotated bibliography.”
- contains at least 10 sources, with no more than 15
- contains a variety of sources (different authors, different publications) AND at least 4 of the sources come from one of the library databases or from established magazines/organizations on the web. Some of your sources can be regular websites, interviews, documentaries, etc. However, the more credible your research, the stronger your ETHOS.
- is continual. Do not start a new page for each new entry (see example below or sample on web page).

**Layout of Annotated Bibliography:**

The bibliographic entry (done in alphabetical order throughout the paper) will come first, followed by a 150 word (approximately) paragraph that explains the following—note the color coding (you can, but are not required to, color code). Again, see web page for complete sample:

**1) A brief summary of the article:** · **Introduce the author with a signal phrase that leads up to a summary of the main argument/purpose of the essay. This could be 1-2 sentences.**

**2) The author's credentials (qualifications for writing on this topic). IF there is no author, or you cannot find anything about the author by Googling them, then you must find some way to explain why you trust the source: You might explain what sorts of evidence the source cites (review the bibliography, if there is one; if there isn't, explain how they give evidence). You might discuss what sort of publication the article came and establish credibility based on this.**

3) How you plan to use the source in the essay. Does it answer a question? Represent a position? Help you explain background information? Some combination? Explain. [REMEMBER: you will need research that helps you represent the opposition or a variety of positions---if all of your research says the same thing, you will have trouble writing your essay.].

\*Avoid quoting: The paragraph should be in your own words; only quote if there is an absolutely essential phrase that cannot be changed.

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**Sample Assignment:** The assignment is color-coded to show you the THREE required elements in the annotation itself—again, you are not required to color code, but feel free to if it helps you to organize. The sample below has four entries, but remember, you are required to have 12.

#### Annotated Bibliography: Global Warming

1) "Antarctic Warming: Hot Air." *New Scientist* 190.2546 (2006): 7. *Popular Magazines*. Web. 28 Jan. 2011.

In an article entitled "Antarctic Warming: Hot Air," published in *New Scientist*, the author is simply stating the facts, giving readers the numbers to illustrate the amount of warming that has occurred over the last 30 years in the Troposphere in the Earth's atmosphere. Although I couldn't find the author, the magazine *New Scientist* has been a trusted source for scientific news in many fields of science since 1956: it's written to a general audience, but one that is somewhat educated, and very interested, in the sciences. This article uses research from 2006 conducted by British Antarctic Survey, which takes on a large portion of Antarctic research for Great Britain: while it's not as recent as it could be, 2006 is when much global warming studies were conducted. This article is helpful because unlike many, it puts exact numbers to one region and it is measuring the temperature of the atmosphere instead of the surface, thus it will help me give background on the debate about global warming.

2) Avery, Dennis T. "Global Warming is Caused by a Climate Cycle, Not Greenhouse Gases." *Hudson Institute* (14 Sept. 2004): 4. Rpt. In *Greenhouse Gases*. Ed. Ronnie D. Lankford, Jr. Detroit: Greenhaven Press, 2009. *Gale Opposing Viewpoints in Context*. Web. 28 Jan. 2011.

In "Earth's Climate Cycle is Unstoppable," Dennis Avery tells the reader that global warming is

caused by natural climate cycles that recur about every 1500 years and there is nothing that humans can do to change it. The author cites articles and books written by leading researchers of climatology to prove that humans are not responsible for the recent change in climate, and that the major change happened before there were large numbers of cars and factories emitting CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere.

Avery has worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is the director of the Center for Global Food Issues, and was an analyst for the U.S. Department of State. This article will help me represent what I think will be my opposition: that global warming is not caused by humans.

3) Johnson, Bruce. "Global Warming Science: The Basics." *Global Warming 101*. Westport, CT:Greenwood Press, 2008. *Gale Virtual Reference Library*. Web. 25 Jan. 2011.

In Bruce Johansen's "Global Warming: The Basics," the science behind global warming is explained without bias. He informs the reader of the different factors that influence climate and the theory behind them. Johansen is a professor at the University of Nebraska researching communication and Native American studies. He has many contributions to periodicals and books on the topic of global warming. This article is useful because Johansen presents the data in an unbiased fashion and gives some of the history behind the "idea" of global warming, unlike many articles that I have found that "preach" one point of view or the other (are humans to blame, or not to blame), which helps me to trust his article more. With this article, I can describe the causes and history of global warming.

4) Spencer, Roy. "Human-Produced Carbon Dioxide Does Not Contribute Significantly to Global Warming." *Global Warming*. Ed. Cynthia A. Bily. Detroit: Greenhaven Press, 2010. *Gale Opposing Viewpoints in Context*. Web. 25 Jan. 2011.

In "More Carbon Dioxide Please: Raising a Scientific Question," Roy Spencer raises the issue of whether or not humans are contributing significantly to global warming. He uses research from respected scientists and researchers in the field of climatology and even astronomers to dispute anthropogenic (human caused) factors are not as significant as we are told in contribution to global

warming. Dr. Roy Spencer has a Ph.D. in meteorology and was a Senior Scientist for Climate Study at NASA. This article makes bold statements about the effects of CO<sub>2</sub> and how they are not as bad as we are told by environmentalists and politicians. Using this article I will show some of the “helpful” effects of CO<sub>2</sub>, representing my opposition.