

# Annotated Bibliographies

## Finding Good and Useful Sources

Presented by  
The Student Success Center

# Assignment Description

*Identify and read at least five credible sources that provide different perspectives on the problem/topic you are addressing.*

- Most of the time, a credible source will be an article from a reputable, peer-reviewed journal
- News articles are not credible sources
- Start at the JHU Library website (<http://guides.library.jhu.edu/business>)
- Do not use a basic Google search

# Credible Sources

- Try multiple key word searches related to your topic
  - The research process is not always simple or straightforward
  - The more thorough and patient you are during this stage, the better your final paper will be
- Each of your sources should make a detailed and sophisticated argument related to your topic
  - An article does not have to agree with your thoughts/arguments to be included in the review
  - You may need to search for a parallel industry or idea

# Understanding Your Sources

- Record/paraphrase the main points from each of your outside sources
  - Respond to each of these main points with your own ideas about how they relate to your problem
- Be diligent and keep track of every outside source/idea you encounter
  - Author name, date, title, journal, volume/issue number, URL

# Summary Response Table

Main Points from Outside Research	My Responses/Reactions
Article #1, Idea #1	
Article #1, Idea #2	
Article #1, Idea #3	
Article #2, Idea #1	
Article #2, Idea #2	
Article #2, Idea #3	
Article #3, Idea #1	
Article #3, Idea #2	
Article #3, Idea #3	

# Assignment Description (continued)

- *Then create an annotated bibliography using APA format for references, and add one or two sentences summarizing the content of the sources and its relevance to your organization and research*
  - Use APA guidelines to format your list of sources
  - Summarize the sources and their helpfulness *in your own words*

# One- to Two-Sentence Summary/Explanation for Each Source

- One sentence to discuss the main idea of the source
  - Do not copy and paste from the abstract or another portion of the source
  - Focus on what the main *argument* is
  - Combine ideas from your outline to form a sentence about the main argument
- One sentence to explain how you will use the source in your White Paper
  - How does this research/analysis help you to solve your organization's business problem?
  - Are there any specific quotes, passages, or arguments that you plan to refer to?

# Sample Annotation

Iuka, D.M. & Namusonge, J.S. (2013). Factors affecting growth of information communication technology firms in Nairobi, Kenya. *International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences*, 7(3). 1-33.

Ikuu & Namusonge assert that the most influential factor in advancing marketing efforts is ensuring that all technology is the most up-to-date option in its category.

This topic will be used as support for my argument that CPO's technology is outdated and is likely a contributing factor for clients' choosing other companies over CPO.

# Additional Resources

- Ask a question or make an appointment with a librarian:  
<http://guides.library.jhu.edu/hebusiness>
- Make a tutoring appointment:  
<http://carey.jhu.edu/ssc>
- Email us: [carey.tutoring@jhu.edu](mailto:carey.tutoring@jhu.edu)