



Ohio History Day

Evaluating Sources and Creating a Bibliography

Just like with print sources, it is important to be critical of the Internet sources you use to develop your project. Once you have located resources be sure to track them. Use the Annotated Bibliography organizer below.

Questions you should consider when examining sources:

- Who wrote the web page? Were they qualified to write it?
- Who published it?
- Who is the intended audience?
- What is the writing style?
- When was this information last updated?
- What does the URL tell you? (.com signals a company, while .org is a non-profit, and .gov is a U.S. government agency)

You are looking for accuracy, authority, objectivity, currency, and coverage!

University Research Guides


- University of California-Berkeley Libraries' Evaluating Websites:
<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/Evaluate.html>
- University of Maryland Libraries' Checklist for Website Evaluation:
<http://www.lib.umd.edu/guides/webcheck.html>
- Ohio State University Libraries' Internet Research Techniques: <http://liblearn.osu.edu/tutor/>
- New Mexico State University Library Examples of Good versus Bad Websites:
<http://lib.nmsu.edu/instruction/evalexpl.html>



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Annotated Bibliography

Analyze Your Source

Denotation - I list or take notes on only what I see/hear/read and try not to make inferences or judgments. I am describing the source in detail.	Connotation - Based on the information I listed and my own experience I make inferences and interpretations about what I see/hear/read.
	



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Build Your Bibliography

Citation - Use the guide to write the citation information.	Author. Artwork, Photograph, Poster, Cartoon, Manuscript, Media Title. Date. Publication Information (if applicable). Collection Number, Collection Title, Collection Repository. (Accessed Date) Web Address.
Annotation - Answer these questions to help build your annotation.	1. Does the citation information change or support your inferences and interpretation? How? Rewrite your interpretation from above incorporating the new information you learned from the citation.
	2. Can you use this source for you project? In other words, does it support your thesis statement? How? Why? If not, why not?
	3. How does this source relate to the HD theme?
	4. Does it relate to other sources you have found? How? Why? If not, why not?
	Write three-four sentences that interpret this source (1), explains how and why you are using it in your project (2), how it relates to the HD theme (3), and how it relates to other sources you are using (4). This is your annotation!



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