This guide is a starting point for completing the annotated bibliographies assigned in CMST 494/594 Communication Research Methods, a course offered by the UAB Department of Communication Studies. Before using this guide, students taking CMST 494/594 should read the annotated bibliography requirements provided by their instructor.

All of the databases and Web sites are hot-linked directly from this PDF. Just click on the link to connect to the resource.

**WHAT ARE ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHIES?**

Annotated bibliographies are lists of sources with a citation and description (annotation) of each source. Most annotated bibliographies are focused on one topic. For this course, the sources in the annotated bibliographies are journal articles, and the topics are chosen by students.

For additional information about annotated bibliographies, see the research guide Annotated Bibliographies: What Are They?

**CHOOSE A TOPIC**

Try the following resources to identify communication studies topics for this assignment.

*International Encyclopedia of Communication*

*Electronic Book*

Provides authoritative, interdisciplinary coverage of the theories, media and communication phenomena, research methods, problems, concepts, and geographical areas related to all areas of communication studies.

*Encyclopedia of Communication and Information*

Ref P 87.5 E53 2001

Provides interdisciplinary coverage of all aspects of communication and information. Includes 280 entries related to eight topic areas: careers, information science, information technologies, literacy, institutional studies, interpersonal communication, library science, and media effects.

Class discussions and textbooks for communication studies courses are also resources for topic ideas.
IDENTIFY A JOURNAL ARTICLE

Next, use Sterne Library databases to search for a scholarly journal article on your topic. Focus on locating articles in communication studies journals. For a description of scholarly journals, see the research guide Scholarly Journals: What Are They?

The following are a few of the scholarly communication studies journals available through Sterne Library (in print or online). Searching the databases will help you identify other communication studies journals.

- Communication Quarterly
- Communication Research
- Communication Studies
- Public Opinion Quarterly
- Journal of Communication
- Quarterly Journal of Speech

Search the following databases to identify journal articles on your topic.

**Best starting point:** Communication and Mass Media Complete

Here’s one example of an Advanced Search in the Communication and Mass Media Complete database:

If you don’t limit your search to a specific communication studies journal, make sure to check the box to limit your results to Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals.

**Other databases:** Communications and Mass Media Collection
- Humanities Full Text
- PsycINFO
- Social Sciences Full Text

The Communication Studies research guide describes additional resources for identifying articles in communication studies.
LOCATE ARTICLES YOU IDENTIFY (ONLINE OR PRINT)

After you identify articles by searching a database, locate a copy of the article. Some databases include the full text of articles. Look for links labeled PDF or Full Text or HTML Full Text.

If a database does not include the full text of an article you need, use the following steps to locate a copy of the article.

Online: Use the link within the database you are searching or the Electronic Journals List on the Sterne Library homepage to determine if full text is available in a different database on the library’s website.

Print: Conduct a Journal Title search in the Sterne Library local catalog to identify the call number and location (usually second floor) of the journal.

Interlibrary Loan: Complete an interlibrary loan request for articles that are not available in databases or in print at Sterne Library or Lister Hill Library.

COMPLETE A CITATION FOR THE ARTICLE

After you have identified, located, and read your article, complete a citation for it using the APA citation style (American Psychological Association).

See the Citing Your Sources research guide for additional examples of citing scholarly journal articles in APA or other formats.

COMPLETE AN ANNOTATION FOR THE ARTICLE

Follow your instructor's directions to complete an annotation for the article you have read.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Heather Martin, Reference Librarian for Arts and Humanities, at hmartin@uab.edu or 934-6364.

Other resources for help: Ask a Librarian Schedule an appointment with a librarian for a research or citation consultation