Annotated Bibliography Assignment - LIFE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES version

Pick a topic in the life or physical sciences that interests you; confirm it with your instructor. Examples of topics you might choose include: treatments for schizophrenia, applications of robotics, earthquake prediction systems.

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Go the libraries’ website at <https://libraries.usc.edu/>. Under the Research menu, choose “Research Guides.” Research guides are curated collections of resources (like databases, catalogs, websites, archival collections). Choose one of the following guides that most closely reflects your topic, and underline it:

* Astronomy
* Earth Sciences
* Engineering
* Environmental Sciences
* Gerontology
* Life Sciences
* Neurology and Neuroscience
* Physics
* Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
* Psychology

Below, you’ll be asked to find three types of sources. Use the research guide to identify resources where you can search. **For example:** on the Engineering Research Guide, there are tabs for “Home,” “Books,” and “Grey Literature.” Under the “Home” tab, you could search the database “Engineering Village” to find experimental research. Use the descriptions of each database, catalog, or website to judge what sources you could look for there.

Find one of each of the following types of sources, keeping your topic in mind.

**Source 1: Experimental Research**

*(examples: research study of a drug’s effectiveness, study of children’s sleep patterns, study of particle behavior under specific conditions)*

In which resource (e.g., library catalog, ProQuest) did you find this source?

Under which tab in the research guide is the resource listed?

Search terms used to find the source:

APA citation for the source (see Citation research guide for guidance - <http://libguides.usc.edu/citation>):

What makes this experimental research?

What unique purpose does experimental research bring to a research paper or project on this topic?

**Source 2: Literature Review**

*(examples: review of 20 years of research on national space programs, compilation of most influential gerontology research)*

In which resource (e.g., library catalog, ProQuest) did you find this source?

Under which tab in the research guide is the resource listed?

Search terms used to find the source:

APA citation for the source (see Citation research guide for guidance - <http://libguides.usc.edu/citation>):

What makes this a literature review?

What unique purpose does a literature review bring to a research paper or project on this topic?

**Source 3: Gray Literature (preprints, conference/white papers, technical reports, theses and dissertations)**

*(examples: conference presentation on new theory of the universe’s origin, dissertation on cognitive therapy for veterans, technical report on a chemical process for breaking down pollutants)*

In which resource (e.g., library catalog, ProQuest) did you find this source?

Under which tab in the research guide is the resource listed?

Search terms used to find the source:

APA citation for the source (see Citation research guide for guidance - <http://libguides.usc.edu/citation>):

What makes this gray literature?

What unique purpose does gray literature bring to a research paper or project on this topic?