

## Research Question and Annotated Bibliography (RQAB)

(5% of course grade)

Due: Beginning of section during Week 3 (Apr. 14-18)

Length: 3-5 pages

Sample: <http://provost.ucsd.edu/roosevelt/> [click on MMW Courses, then MMW 6]

Your RQAB must be **completed and approved** by your TA before the final paper can be graded.

(Note: Save your graded RQAB to turn in with your Prospectus during Week 6)

**Research Question:** In one or two paragraphs, state the topic of your paper and the precise research question that your paper will answer.

- To develop a research question, *READ, READ, READ* about a topic of interest to you. As you read, notice:
  - what you find really interesting
  - what topics are important to you
  - what you would like to understand better
  - what you think others should know, find important, or understand better
- Your research question must be a Level III question: a question that can be researched and supported with scholarly research, but that cannot be definitively answered.
- If, in your exposition of your topic and research question, you introduce facts, ideas, and arguments drawn from sources you have read, remember to include necessary *citations*.

**Annotated Bibliography:** “An annotated bibliography is a list of citations to books, articles, and documents. Each citation is followed by a brief descriptive and evaluative paragraph, the annotation. The purpose of the annotation is to inform the reader of the relevance, accuracy, and quality of the sources cited. Annotations are descriptive and critical; they expose the author's point of view, clarity and appropriateness of expression, and authority.”(Cornell University Library’s “How to Prepare an Annotated Bibliography,” <http://www.library.cornell.edu/okuref/research/skill28.htm>)

Your annotated bibliography should:

- include 6 sources (related to your question) that you *have read*; at least one source must be **journal article** and at least one source must be a **primary source**. Make your
- demonstrate your *familiarity* with each source
- demonstrate how each source is *useful to your question*
- Contain, **in your own words**:
  - An overview of each author and source
  - An overview of the source’s main arguments on your topic
  - A discussion of how the author’s arguments could be used to formulate an answer to your research question