

## Biology 399 : Scientific Writing and Presentation 2012

### Annotated Bibliography Assignment

This assignment is designed to help you locate and evaluate sources of information related to the scientific topic that you have chosen for Biology 399. The sources in your bibliography should provide you with a broad understanding of your area of interest and the concepts and terms related to it.

1. Find 10 sources on your topic – one from each of the following categories:
  - A. **Print book** related to your topic in PC's collection or borrowed through PASCAL  
*[not a reference book]*
  - B. **eBook** from either the *EBSCO eBook* or the *Springer eBook Collections*
  - C. **Book chapter from an e-book** in either the *EBSCO eBook* or *Springer eBook collections*  
*[chapter from a different book than the one used for B.]*
  - D. **AccessScience entry** on your topic OR something directly related to your topic  
*[AccessScience is the McGraw Hill Encyclopedia of Science & Technology Online]*
  - E. **Specialized reference encyclopedia entry** in print or eReference book format  
(specialized = a medical or scientific encyclopedia)  
*[Use THOMCAT or one of PC's eReference Collections: ORO, CREDO, GVRL, not AccessScience for this. Springer and EBSCO eBook collections also have several encyclopedias.]*
  - F. **Scientific OR medical dictionary** relevant to your topic *[print or e-book]*
  - G. **Statistical source** related to your topic *[may be a website, book]*
  - H. **Organization web site** related to your topic *[.org]*
  - I. **Review article** *(not a book review)* which contains a synthesis of research results from recent research activity in your general topic area ( i.e. results from studies on the use of metformin in treating diabetes) *[you can limit a search in ScienceDirect to retrieve "review articles" only]*
  - J. **Primary research article**
2. Look for reliable, valid sources that discuss research and use scientific language. You will write an **annotated paragraph** for each of the ten sources which will include the following information:
  - A. A summary of the content of the source – be descriptive and specific.
  - B. Comments on the authority or credentials of the author(s)  
*[include the institution or lab with which they are affiliated; also explore whether lead author has additional publications in this field]*
  - C. Comments on the usefulness of the source as it relates to your topic  
*[useful/why? - not useful/why not?]*
3. Bibliography items should have been published within the last five-six years. If you have trouble finding reference books published in 2005-6 or after, talk to Dan or Teresa. We may be able to help.
4. Use the **CSE name-year citation format** (Council of Science Educators) found in the class text: Karen Knisely's, *A student handbook for writing in Biology, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*, Sinauer Press, 2009. See also *Scientific style and format: The CSE manual for authors, editors, and publishers, 7<sup>th</sup> edition*, Rockefeller University Press, 2006 which can be found at the Reference Desk.
5. To begin your paper, center your title/topic at the top of the page below your name. Next, list the citation for item A. using **CSE style [name-year format]**, then the annotated paragraph for A. Next give citation and annotation for item B., and so on for items A. through J.  
*[Normally a bibliography is listed in alphabetical order by first author's last name; we require you to list the sources in the order above, A - J.]*

6. Paragraphs should be in full sentences 100-250 words long not including the citation. See sample entries below.
7. Grading will be based on the Rubric on page 3 of this handout. The highest possible score is 25 points. Your score will be multiplied by 4 to determine your grade. [25 possible pts x 4 = 100 pts]
8. This assignment is due at Noon on February 28 for the Tuesday class and Noon on March 1 for the Thursday class.

## Examples of annotated bibliography sources with paragraph:

### E. Specialized reference encyclopedia entry

Lowe P. 2006. Myasthenia gravis. In: Beers MH, Porter RS, Jones TV, Kaplan JL, Berkwitz M, editors. Merck manual of diagnosis and therapy. 18<sup>th</sup> ed. Whitehouse Station [NJ]: Merck Research Laboratories. p. 1899-1901.

This entry discusses the parameters of the disorder and briefly discusses rare cases it may divert into. Signs and symptoms, diagnosis, and treatments are also discussed. Myasthenic crisis and cholinergic crisis are discussed as specific breaking points in the disorder which have capabilities of putting a stabilized patient into intensive care. The treatment section of the entry discusses the use of pyridostigmine bromide as a way of repairing the connections of the acetyl choline receptors of the cells. The Merck Manual is a respected reference for many physicians and researchers to review diagnoses and common effective treatments. This entry will be helpful to gain a basic understanding of myasthenic and cholinergic crises and how Mestinon may be used to prevent such situations. 1 (122 words)

### J. Primary research article

Lopez-Garcia-Villalba R, Carrasco-Pancorbo A, Oliveras-Ferraros C, Vazquez-Martin A, Menendez JA, Segura-Carretero A, Fernandez-Gutoerrez A. 2010. Characterization and quantification of phenolic compounds of extra-virgin olive oils with anticancer properties by a rapid and resolute LC-ESI-TOF MS method. *J Pharm Biomed Analysis* 51(2): 416-429.

[http://www.sciencedirect.com.libproxy.presby.edu/science?\\_ob=MiamilImageURL&\\_cid=271442&\\_user=599640&\\_pii=S073170850900377X&\\_check=y&\\_origin=search&\\_zone=rslt\\_list\\_item&\\_coverDate=2010-01-20&wchp=dGLbVIV-zSkzV&md5=bf095edc3100ddf039045f174432a1f9/1-s2.0-S073170850900377X-main.pdf](http://www.sciencedirect.com.libproxy.presby.edu/science?_ob=MiamilImageURL&_cid=271442&_user=599640&_pii=S073170850900377X&_check=y&_origin=search&_zone=rslt_list_item&_coverDate=2010-01-20&wchp=dGLbVIV-zSkzV&md5=bf095edc3100ddf039045f174432a1f9/1-s2.0-S073170850900377X-main.pdf)  
 Accessed 2011 Feb 19.

This source presents the findings of one particular research project. It has a formal writing style and it provides the reader with a large amount of detailed information specific to one topic. In this source, the researchers first explain how they developed a new technique for “characterizing and quantifying” the phenolic compounds found in olive oil. They used techniques that are quicker and allow one to identify each specific phenolic compound. The researchers also tested the phenolic compounds they found on four different types of cultured breast cancer cells. They concluded that phenolic compounds from olive oil, when directly exposed to breast carcinomas, affect the viability of breast cancer cells, particularly those that express HER2. The lead author of this source has a PhD and is part of the “faculty of science” at the University of Grenada, and the remaining authors have conducted several other published projects with each other and Garcia-Villalba concerning olive oil and HER2 breast cancer viability. This source has also been peer-reviewed, and with the authors’ credentials, readers can be confident that the information is accurate and reliable. This source is thus useful in demonstrating the possible effects of olive oil on cancer growth; however, the scientific wording and vocabulary is difficult to understand. Also the tests designed and performed by the researchers are almost impossible to understand without a basic background in organic chemistry. 2 (229 words)

<sup>1</sup> Reville J. 2011. Annotated bibliography assignment.

<sup>2</sup> Basnight K. 2011. Annotated bibliography assignment.