BUS 230: Business and Economics Research and Communication
Group Project Assignment: Annotated Bibliography
Instructor: James Murray
Spring 2012
Due: Wednesday, February 15 before 11:59pm.

Purpose: One approach to identify a question question is to conduct a *literature review*, that is to explore published research that has already been conducted which is related to your problem. A literature review is also an essential component of the introduction to your research paper. A review of existing literature is used to 1) introduce your reader to relevant background knowledge on the topic and 2) motivate your research question by identifying some aspect of the topic that is important to be answered.

Learning Outcomes:

- LO-1: Develop the ability to define a research problem. Formulate research questions and hypotheses that are measurable, well-defined, address the overall problem, are directly related, and reflect the scope of the problem.

- LO-4: Develop the ability to effectively communicate research results both written and orally.

- CBA LO-1B: Create well-written business reports

- CBA LO-1C: Use communication to work effectively with others in a business context

Directions: Work in your groups and find 6 journal articles (not popular media articles like newspapers or magazines) related to your topic. The following are good places to start looking:

- Murphy Library Databases http://www.uwlax.edu/murphylibrary/research/popular.htm.

- Google Scholar: http://scholar.google.com.

For each of the journal article, address the following:

1. Write the bibliography information in APA format (You can use the *Purdue Online Writing Lab* website for help on APA formatting: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/).

2. Write a brief description of the article (5-6 sentences).

3. Write in 1-3 sentences why you want to include a citation of this article in your paper. You do not want to cite every journal article on a topic for your paper. You may want to consider some of the following:

   - Background: Is this important background information that is not common knowledge?
   - Motivation: Does the journal article's introduction or conclusion suggest that work along the lines of your research project is important?
   - Motivation: Does the journal article answer a closely related question that suggests answering your question is important?

Refer the the *Purdue Online Writing Lab* for more information about annotated bibliographies: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/1/.

Type up your annotated bibliography and submit to the appropriate D2L dropbox folder.