BUS 735: Business Decision Making and Research
Group Project Assignment: Annotated Bibliography
Instructor: James Murray

Purpose: One approach to inform a research project is to write an *annotated bibliography*. The purpose is to explore published research that has already been conducted which is related to your problem. A review of existing literature in your presentation is used to 1) introduce your audience 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.

Directions: Work in your groups and find 6 peer-reviewed 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 should consider at least one of the following for each article:

   - Background: Does this article provide important background information that is not common knowledge? Is this background knowledge important for your audience to understand or appreciate your paper?

   - Motivation: Does the journal article's introduction or conclusion suggest that work along the lines of your research project is important? Does it answer a *related* question, suggesting answering your question is also important?

   - Justification: Can this article justify the choices you make for your project? Does the research project described in this journal article make some of the same decisions that you will make in how to go about answering your research question? Will you use similar survey questions, compute similar statistics, etc?

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.