

## ECO 301: Money and Banking

Instructor: James Murray

### Project Assignment: Idea & Annotated Bibliography

**Purpose:** One approach to identify a research 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.

You will follow the directions below create an annotated bibliography for each of your two projects.

#### Deadlines:

- Project 1: **Due Friday, November 9, 11:59 PM**
- Project 2: **Due Friday, November 30, 11:59 PM**

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

**Directions:** Find 8 sources for your project. Your sources should include at least 5 peer-reviewed journal articles (not popular media articles like newspapers or magazines), and the remaining may be credible popular press sources. 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>.

#### Step 1: Decide on a project idea

- Construct a one sentence purpose or thesis statement for your project. Be as specific as you can.
- See the syllabus for ideas that may help you get started

#### Step 2: Annotated Bibliography

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/>.