**Annotated Bibliography Peer Review Guide**

**Statement of Scope**

1. Does the statement of scope include a clear research topic/question? Is this question answerable? Is it too broad? Should it be edited for any of these reasons? How so?

2. Does the topic outlined in the statement of scope clearly tie the sources and annotations together? Do any of the sources seem not to fit within the scope of the question? Should the question be edited to make the bibliography more cohesive? How so?

**Source/Annotations**

1. Is the source cited completely in MLA format? Use the Purdue OWL website to make sure that you have followed the format (even if you used some kind of citation generator–those tools are not foolproof).

2. Does the annotation include BOTH a brief description of the main argument of the source and a concise evaluation of the resource as it pertains to the topic/research question?

3. Do you understand the annotation? Putting someone else’s argument into your own words can be a challenge–has the writer clearly paraphrased the argument? Is there anything that confuses you? (If necessary, annotations can include brief quotes–no more than one line of text).

4. Does the annotation follow the word count requirements (between 100-150 words)? Writing with concision is another challenge of this assignment. For that reason, the word count requirement is rather strict.

5. Overall, is the bibliography cohesive? Do each of the sources work together as a body of research that helps answer the research question, or do the sources seem scattered and disconnected? Are there any sources that the writer should reconsider?

**Synthesis**

1. Are there at least two or more sources directly mentioned in the synthesis paragraph? Connecting ideas together is a hard task to accomplish if you’re not talking about them.

2. Is there an effort to make connections between sources? This includes using the author's names, quotes, paraphrases, etc. Include suggestions on any connections you noted, how to make the connection clearer to the reader, or how to make connections if not present.

3. Does the synthesis end with a clear indication of where the writer stands in the midst of this conversation and how they plan on adding to it?

Adapted from Laura Michael Brown @ Penn State