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Professor McAwesome

CORE 210.02

3 April 2015

Annotated Bibliography: Stem Cell Research


Here is the annotation of the above source, which is formatted according to MLA 2009 (7th ed.) guidelines for the bibliographic information listed above. If I were really writing an annotation for this source, I would offer a brief (but significantly longer than this little example) summary of what this book says about stem cell research. After a brief summary (paragraph 1), it would be appropriate to assess this source and offer some criticisms of it.

Does it seem like a reliable and current source? Why? Is the research biased or objective? Are the facts well documented? Who is the author? Is she qualified in this subject? Is this source scholarly, popular, some of both, and how might you be able to use it in your paper (paragraph 2)?


Not all summaries have to be the same length. For example, this source is a quite short scholarly article. It may only take a few short sentences to summarize. Even if you are using a book, you should only focus on the sections that relate to your topic.
Not all annotated bibliographies assess and reflect; some merely summarize. FYI:

it’s OK to give a negative review as well; just be very clear why you might want to include a bad source; for example, one could show the contrast between previous researching techniques and modern ones or something like that.


Notice that in this example, I chose a variety of sources: a book, a scholarly journal, and a television program. You may want to investigate how scholarly sources are treating this topic differently than more popular sources. But when your assignment is to only use scholarly sources, you will want to avoid magazines and popular web sites. Your particular task on this final portion of the assignment, for example, is to use only scholarly sources.