

Week One

After going over the homework of week one, I have decided that my expectations for this class are simple. I just want become a better writer. I have written many papers throughout my schooling but I have always just "blabbed" my way through them. I have never been good at citing my work the correct way. I usually guess and hope it is right. So, with this class I hope I gain the right knowledge to really improve my writing skills. I now know the steps I need to take when doing my research; instead of just getting on a computer and hoping I find something to write about.

I have decided on a topic for my annotated bibliography. If it is approved by you, then I believe I will do my research over animal cruelty. I have recently decided to become a vet tech and I want to know as much about animals as I possibly can. Also I am applying to the humane society here in Lawrence and the more I know about that subject the better. I also now know how the information cycle works. I know this journal entry is a few days late and I apologize. I understand if I don't get a grade on week one assignments. This is my first online class and I kind of forgot about it. It won't happen again though.

Week Two

I selected my research topic to be animal cruelty because I am, like so many others, an animal lover. I believe that people know there is animal cruelty in the world but they don't know that there are different types of abuse animals suffer from. Some people abuse their animals and they don't even know they are doing it. By writing this paper, I want to make people aware that there is active animal abuse and passive animal abuse. Hopefully by making people aware of this, maybe they will be able to recognize both types and be able to do something about it. Also, I am going to be studying to be a vet tech and the more I know about animals, the better I will be at my job.

Learning how to create a thesis statement will help with so many courses at KU. I will probably be attending a different institution next semester and I know that I will be required to write papers there as well. Deciding my topic for my paper was easy. I knew that I specifically wanted to talk about the two different types of animal cruelty. I would say the hardest part of creating the thesis statement was just making sure that I used the correct wording. If I use the wrong wording then I can make my topic seem too broad or too narrow. The only concerns I have are that. Was my thesis statement too broad or too narrow?

Week Three

This week was very helpful to me. I knew what plagiarism was but it is good to be reminded that even if I put the information I learned from a source into my own words, it still needs to be cited or it is considered plagiarism. I learned about MLA and APA formatting. I have only used the MLA format since I started writing papers because I knew nothing about the APA style, so this

week was very helpful because now I know the difference between the two. I also learned that I can go to the the KU website and get help with my writing. I also didn't know that there were citation generators I could go to that would allow me to copy and paste them to my paper and also save them for the future. This knowledge will help me tremendously with papers in other classes. I just wish I knew about it sooner because citing my papers has always been a big struggle for me. I think I have decided that I will be using BibME to help me with my citing. Thank you for all the helpful information this week.

Week Four

This week I learned how to utilize our KU Libraries' databases to find resources for my annotated bibliography. I now know how to select the appropriate database and how to use certain strategies when doing my research, such as using AND, OR, and NOT when I need to. Also knowing to use quotation marks and parenthesis to narrow or broaden my search. I learned how to connect electronically to the full-text of the article that I find. Searching for E-Journals is another thing I learned to do which will be very helpful when a professor gives suggests a certain citation to use later on in other classes. Last but not least, I used my citation generator while doing my "locating a journal" assignment.

I found two articles while searching the databases that I think will be helpful to me later on. The first citation that I have listed that is an article about people who have a problem with animal hoarding which is when they fail to provide minimal standards of care for their animals. A lot of people probably wouldn't think of it as being hoarding. The second citation I have listed is an article about how a lot of law enforcement officers don't know enough about what to do when they get a case of animal abuse and how many people may see the abuse first hand but still don't report it.

Patronek, Gary. "A theoretical perspective to inform assessment and treatment strategies for animal hoarders." *Clinical Psychology Review* 29.3 (2009): 274. Print.

Description: This article gives information about what animal hoarding is, how it is not always understood and also explains what are some of the causes of animal hoarding.

Audience Description: This being an article out of the *Clinical Psychology Review*, this is for an audience that is learning about psychological effects of everyday life.

Evaluative Statement: This article seems to be reliable and useful. The authors used many references while doing their research which has me to believe they got many different perspectives on the subject of animal hoarding.

Degree of Usefulness: This article is just what I need to show examples of how many people don't know they are abusing their animals.

Whitcomb, Rachael. "Improvement needed on animal cruelty identification, reporting, ASPCA says.(In the news)." DVM 42.2 (2011): 38. Print.

Description: This article talks about how law enforcement officers don't always know how to handle animal abuse cases and discusses how many people don't even report it when they see animal abuse first hand.

Audience Description: As an article with ASPCA in the title, which stands for The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, it is intended for animal rights advocates.

Evaluative Statement: This being an article of a national report makes it to be reliable and it seems to have good statistics.

Degree of Usefulness: This article will be very useful to me when discussing the law enforcement officers not knowing what to do when an animal abuse case comes to their attention.

Week Five

This week I learned quite a bit of new information. I never really thought about the internet keeping information from me. But it is very true. The internet always filters things to what it thinks you prefer. I want to make sure that I am getting all the information I should be getting. I don't want the internet deciding for me. When I think about it that makes me seem like I have no control. I don't want technology having control over the things I should be learning. I think now when I am on google on my computer, I will have my roommate look up the same thing as I am to see if the information comes back different.

I knew there were primary and secondary sources. Now I know the difference between the two much better. When I come to think I don't know if I have ever really used a lot of primary sources. I think I always end up finding a secondary source. Hopefully now I will use more primary sources when writing papers since they aren't bias like secondary sources. I learned the difference between popular and scholarly articles. I am hoping I will be able to recognize the difference between the two when I actual comes across them and I don't get tricked. I searched for my primary source that will support my thesis statement but I'm not sure if this is acceptable or not. It is a Youtube video and I wasn't sure if I put the author as the person who uploaded the video or the news channel that did the interviews and such. Please let me know if I need to make any changes.

Egbert, James. "Allegations of Animal Abuse, Neglect in Rutherford Co. - YouTube." YouTube. N.p., 9 Jan. 2013. Web. 5 Mar. 2013. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fdPZO4_QRiY>.

Description: This is a Youtube video of a news channel reporting information about a case of animal abuse. This video also contains audio of interviewed citizens that witnessed this animal abuse. It was uploaded by James Egbert

Audience description: The audience was the citizens of Rutherford County that receive the channel that reported the case. It was uploaded to the internet for people outside of that county to learn about the case. Since it is on the internet, it is available to most people.

Evaluative Statement: This source is a reliable source because it was a report from the news channel that had evidence of the case in hand. This might not meet some standards because it is uploaded to a site that doesn't strike some as reliable.

Degree of usefulness: This video is perfect for my research as it shows an example of how police officers didn't do as much as some citizens thought they could because many people don't know how to handle animal abuse situations.

Week Six

This week I learned how to evaluate resources that I decide to use. I also learned that I need to do it very carefully and what to look out for. I now know that I need to pay attention to accuracy to make sure the information seems accurate and is well supported. I need to pay attention to authority to make sure the author of the website is credible. Objectivity is important to look out for to be aware if the information is biased. I will look for how good the coverage is to see if it has enough information or if I need more specific information from another website. Lastly, I will pay attention to coverage to make sure the website gives me current information.

All of these things that I will now pay attention to while evaluating my resources will be very helpful to me. Usually when I look at websites that I am using for a project I just make sure they don't look cheesy. That is definitely not good evaluating skills. Now that I know what I need to look for specifically I will be more confident in my resources and their credibility. I made the mistake on evaluating one of the websites wrong on the assignment by not paying good enough attention. Now I know to be more cautious. I have decided to keep all of my resources that I have collected so far. I find them all to be credible and give me information that I need.

Week Seven

This week I learned about how to search for resources using the KU catalog in the KU libraries. I have never used the KU catalog so this week was very helpful. I now know that I need to remember the Location, Call Number, and Status when I find the resource that I would like to

use for my research. I was also reminded about using “keyword”, “AND, OR,NOT”, Title, etc. when I am searching for something. It’s always nice to be reminded. All of this knowledge will continue to help me with any research projects I come across later on in school or life in general.

While researching the KU catalog I came across an interesting sounding book that I decided to use for my research. As I have mentioned in my annotation, I believe this book will be very helpful for me. The author seems to have a genuine interest in the topic and gives a lot of information. This will be the most helpful I think because it gives me a lot more to think about.

Arluke, Arnold. *Just a dog: understanding animal cruelty and ourselves*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2006. Print.

Description: This book holds a very wide variety of information about animal cruelty. Not only does it talk about understanding animal cruelty but it also talks about how to understand ourselves with the whole situation of it.

Audience Description: The audience that this book was aiming for was anyone that cared about animal cruelty or anyone who cared to learn more about animal cruelty and understanding it.

Evaluative Statement: The author of this book seems to be credible and shows that he did a lot of his own research. Overall, I think this resource is very reliable.

Degree of Usefulness: This book will be, I think, even more helpful to me than the other resources I found because there is much more information and therefore; a lot more detail that will contribute to my research.

Week Eight

I'm not entirely sure what is suppose to be in this journal entry for this week. I believe this is week eight instead of the final week but I see a lot of people posting journal entries for the final week. So I'm just going to post what I read in the latest announcements. I got very good feedback from one of my peers. I completely forgot about organizing my citations in alphabetical order so I now will be correcting that. I haven't got my feedback from the other peer yet. Whenever they send it to me, I will post information about it. I'm sorry this is a short post but I'm not sure if I'm suppose to post more on it. I am attaching the critiques that I gave to my peers just in case you need them.

- Attached Files:
- [Christina Gibson Annotated Bibliography.docx\(14.2kb\)](#)
- [John Griffin Annotated Bibliography .docx\(14.7kb\)](#)

Final Week

I am going to go ahead and post my final week journal entry just in case I'm suppose to already. This class has been incredibly helpful to me. I have learned tons of things. I don't think I could select just one thing to be the most important thing I have learned. Searching in the KU libraries is so much easier than it was before because I know the details on how to research. The citation generators that you introduced us to are awesome! Also, I have never done an annotated bibliography before so this was a great experience for me. I was actually just explaining to my cousin who goes to a different school about this assignment and that if she needed any help I would volunteer for the job. I now feel more confident in knowing what type of resources I am using. I know the difference between primary and secondary sources, what a peer reviewed article will look like, etc. During the process of creating my thesis statement I learned that the writing center is very helpful with those types of things. Which is why I will definitely be sending them my finished annotated bibliography. Also I appreciate how the professor was always willing to take questions. I know sometimes I can ask too many questions just to be safe. Being able to ask questions and get the answer right away was awesome. Thank you very much for that. This class was overall not stressful and everything was explained well and that's nice with having a busy schedule. It's just one less thing to worry about. I just wish I could have taken this class a few years ago. I know writing papers would have been a heck of a lot easier.