

Foundations of Health Informatics – Annotated Bibliography

Assignment Description

The primary intended outcome of this assignment is to start an annotated collection of current literature in the field of biohealth informatics that relates to future student research. This bibliography should be critical or evaluative rather than just descriptive. A secondary outcome is to develop search strategies using resources like Ovid, PubMed, and Web of Science. (Do Not use Google Scholar.) A tertiary outcome is to learn and become comfortable with the use of the citation manager EndNote.

Assignment

This assignment is worth 110 points. Up to 100 points will be awarded for the midterm paper. Up to 10 points will be awarded for the research question and search strategy proposal. This assignment will count as a final exam for the course.

Assignment Details:

1. First, propose a research question related to one or more areas of informatics covered in the course (10 points). Students are encouraged to select topics that align with their specific interests, expertise, research, or work activities. **However, students may not reuse prior completed work.**
 - a. Proposal must include a specific research question, proposed resources (PubMed, Ovid, Web of Science, etc), and proposed keywords. Proposals should specify whether the research is related to your Masters project, PhD research, work related research, other course work research, or general interest.
 - b. Proposals may not exceed 500 words must be detailed enough to be judged for appropriate content, scope, and approach. Your proposal must include the following sections:
 - i. Introduction and background for your topic (why does it need to be researched? What has already been done?). This should be brief for this proposal and will be expanded and completed in the final paper.
 - ii. Explicit statement of a research question.
 - iii. Abbreviated methods section that details keywords and SPECIFIC databases you plan to use to locate the 25 articles required for this project. Inclusion and exclusion criteria for determining which articles you will include in your selection. You will complete the methods section in the final paper.
 - iv. A sentence about why you chose your topic and how it relates to your course of study, job or general interest. This will not be included in your final paper.
 - c. The proposed paper may draw from any area of biohealth informatics.
2. Second, prepare a critical or evaluative annotated bibliography (see attached resources for descriptions) addressing the approved research question (100 points).
 - a. The paper must use scientific writing (or technical writing) conventions. A good guide is the American Psychological Association (APA) publication manual, which is available at the library. See below for 20 minute tutorial:
<http://www.apastyle.org/learn/tutorials/basics-tutorial.aspx>
 - b. The annotated bibliography must contain at least 25 articles with the majority published in the last 5 years. The paper must use and cite appropriate scholarly literature and other publications of acceptable quality (peer reviewed only). If there is not enough literature on the topic, a new topic should be chosen. Similarly,

if there is too much literature, the topic should be narrowed.

- c. The paper must have the following components:
 - i. Introduction to the research question, inclusive of background and rationale.
 - ii. Statement of the research question.
 - iii. Methods section describing how you acquired, analyzed, and brought to bear relevant knowledge to address your thesis or research question. (This means you should **document** what you are doing as you go along – for example, when reviewing the literature, take notes on the scholarly databases you searched, the keywords you used, the search parameters, how you chose which scholarly publications to include in your paper (inclusion/exclusion criteria), citation manager (which version) you used to collect and store the publications; all this can then be briefly reported in your methods section). Make sure to include a PRISMA diagram in this section.
 - iv. A section on principal findings. This section should be organized in a logical way such that any reader new to the topic could follow it. For example, historical articles should be presented first and the others grouped in some way that flows from topic to topic. This section should have an appropriately formatted section for each of your selected articles.
 1. Each article should include:
 - a. Complete bibliographic citation
 - b. A summary of the content – main points that relate to your research question.
 - c. Relevance to the research question – supports or refutes
 - d. Anything unique in the article - methods, conclusions, subjects
 - e. Strengths, weaknesses or biases
 - f. Evaluation of the qualifications of the authors.
 2. Any common citation format can be used—e.g., APA, MLA, Vancouver, BMJ, etc.—but one must be chosen and used consistently. Do not use footnotes for citation. The reference list should have full citation detail for each item (i.e., don't provide URLs only). If unsure, use either APA 6th or Vancouver numbered format. You are required to use Endnote as the citation manager for this project.
 - v. An evaluative, reflective section discussing limitations of your search and/or the available literature for your topic, and future needs and directions for completing your literature search.
 - vi. Screenshot of EndNote with all citations for this paper
 - vii. Full text for all sources emailed to instructor

Sources for more information on how to write an annotated bibliography

<http://guides.library.cornell.edu/annotatedbibliography>

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/03/>

<http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/annotated-bibliographies/>