

## Annotated bibliography Required Elements

1. Project proposal paragraph that includes topic, research question, search engines used, keywords, citation manager used, and relationship of the topic to your program or work.

For each article selected, no more than one page that includes:

2. Citation
3. Annotation that includes answers to all of the following questions. The entire annotation must be written in your own words. It may not be copied from the abstract or any other description, and it may not include direct quotations from the publication itself.
  - **Summary & Purpose:** What are the main ideas of the source? Is the main purpose of the source to contribute new knowledge about the topic or to try to persuade an audience to believe or to do something about the topic?
  - **Methods Used to Collect Data & Reliability of Data:** Is it clear from the source what methods were used to gather the evidence used in the source? Does the source convince you that its evidence is reliable? Why or why not?
  - **Usefulness & Relevancy:** Why is this source helpful to your research? How will you use it in your paper? Are there any limitations to its usefulness for your paper? Can you overcome these limitations? How?
  - **Authority:** Is the source written by someone who has the expertise to write on the topic? List the credentials of the author(s).
  - **Currency:** Is the source up-to-date for your topic?

### Sample Scholarly Journal Article Annotation

Street, John, Seth Hague, and Heather Savigny. "Playing to the Crowd: The Role of Music and Musicians in Political Participation." *The British Journal of Politics and International Relations*. 10.2 (2008), 269-285. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 8 Dec. 2009. <<http://web.ebscohost.com/>>.

The first half of this article includes a summary of previous articles and books written about the meeting of music and politics. The easy-to-understand summary is broken down into the three areas – organization, legitimation and performance – that one must study to understand how and why musicians become political activists. It also attempts to define "participation" by asking if it requires action and if listening to music is an action. The article also includes studies of Rock Against Racism and Jubilee 2000, and looks at those politically charged concerts in terms of organization, legitimation and performance. I was hoping for more from this article than it gave me. I was looking for reasons *why* musicians participate in such events, but instead found *how* to study those musicians and events. The bibliography, which includes music, political and economic sources, is extensive. The authors also interviewed several individuals involved in the music industry and/or major musical events such as Rock Against Racism. These first-hand accounts, especially, make the article very reliable. Despite being somewhat disappointed in the article's lack of explanation why musicians participate, I was able to find a few reasons, such as the fact that the press regards musicians as "truth bearers" and seeks out their political opinions. If musicians know that their words will reach beyond their concert audience and appear in the newspaper the next day, they are more likely to say them. Additionally, the authors conclude that the music itself is part of the political process; it is the sounds and the lyrics that affect people. Musicians use their sound as a backdrop to their message. But, I ask myself, as the article authors asked, what if someone supports a musician's political cause, but does not like her/his music? This article gave me the knowledge to work with such questions in regards to particular musicians and events, especially concerts like Vote For Change that include a range of musical styles. The article's three authors are all from the School of Political, Social and International Studies at the University of East Anglia. This qualifies them to write on the subject. I had to take into account that they are from England, and that British views on politics and music, as well as the events described in the article, may differ from those in the United States. The article, written in 2008, is very current.