Sample Annotated Bibliography
in Chicago Manual of Style format

Annotated bibliographies should include a brief description of the work (1-2 sentences) and relate how the work will help you answer your research question (2-3 sentences).

Sample Research Question:
How was the women’s suffrage movement in the United States inspired by or in conflict with the abolition and African American suffrage movement?


A complete transcript of Douglass addressing suffragettes, recalling his former speech at the Seneca Falls conference. He argues that while his previous speech came at a time that he could offer help to the movement, that now women should be the spokespeople and power behind their own movement. He compares suffrage for women and African Americans. In addition to his drawing parallels between the movements, as an important figure in the the abolition movement and social reform, Douglass’ involvement in Seneca Falls and this convention shows the ties between the two movements.


Spruill examines southern white suffragettes’ compromise to, or outright alliance with, white supremacists in the latter 19th century. She argues that southern white suffragettes adopted racist tactics to attain success in the their goals during a time of poisonous race-relations in the United States. The book demonstrates the conflict within the movement, as suffragettes intentionally juxtaposed their cause against the rights of
African Americans to gain the support of white men. Southerners argued that more enfranchised whites (even women) would strengthen their supremacy.


In The Road to Seneca Falls Wellman argues that the first women’s convention was the beginning of women’s suffrage and of one of the greatest social movements in U.S. history brought. She argues that this was made possible by a confluence of social, economic, and cultural factors. The book puts the convention and movement in the context of the times, as well as giving an understanding of the event in its own right. Wellman gives evidence and examples of how the convention brought together activists from many areas including abolitionists and quakers. The book provides in depth information about the demographics of the attendees including their political affiliations, and examines specific women with ties to abolition such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Martha Coffin Wright and Abby Kell.