

**LIB101**  
**Assignment #6: Finding Book Reviews**  
**Due In Class February 19th**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**The purpose of this assignment is to practice finding book reviews and using them to evaluate your sources. This assignment should be typewritten or word-processed, not handwritten.**

1. Identify **two books** on your topic and, using **proper** MLA or APA style, cite the books.
2. Find a book review for **each** of the above titles using the "Standard Sources" on *the Guide to Finding Book Reviews* at <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/subguid/history/bkrev.html>

*Note: If you cannot find a review in the Standard Sources, choose a different book and try again.*

3. Under each book citation, type the citation for the corresponding book review in proper MLA or APA style.
4. Find the full text of each book review and read it. **At least 1 review** must be from a **printed source**, not an online review.
5. Photocopy the first page of the book review from the printed source and staple it to your assignment.
6. **After reading the review**, under each book review citation type two to three sentences answering the following question:

**Now that you have read a review, WHY would you or wouldn't you choose this book for a research project on your topic?**

**EXTRA CREDIT (5 POINTS)**

- A. Find a book review for one of your books cited in a specialized index or database (listed by subject area on the Janus page) and type the citation in MLA or APA style.

B. Print out the book review record from the database and staple it to your assignment.

**EXAMPLE ASSIGNMENT**

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Name Heather Ward

1. Aberth, John. From the Brink of the Apocalypse: Confronting Famine, War, Plague, and Death in the Later Middle Ages. New York: Routledge, 2001.

Andrews, Robert J. "From the Brink of the Apocalypse." Library Journal 125 (2000): 96.

According to the book review this is a "popular history" about plague and disaster in the 14<sup>th</sup>-century. I would still use it, however because the reviewer recommends it for academic libraries, so it must be somewhat scholarly. It covers not only the history of the plague, but other events occurring at the same time.

2. Martin, A. Lynn. Plague?: Jesuit Accounts of Epidemic Disease in the Sixteenth Century. Kirksville, MO: Sixteenth Century Journal Pub., 1994.

Gentilcore, David. "Plague?" History 83 (1998): 326.

The review had few reservations about recommending this book. I would choose this book because of the reviewer's recommendation and because it makes use of interesting sources about the plague.