



Abstract & Bibliography

HOW-TO:

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND ABSTRACT

The ABSTRACT

What is an abstract?

- ▶ An abstract is a **short** summary of your **proposed** research.
- ▶ It does not have to be fancy... just tell the reader what your work is about and what your main argument is.
- ▶ You may also want to use the abstract to place yourself in the relevant scholarship, i.e. explain where you are coming from.

What is a good abstract?

- ▶ An abstract that is of professional quality and correctly and clearly summarises the proposed research with a clear and nuanced presentation of the main argument and relevance to scholarship

And what exactly should I do?

1. Write a brief summary of your proposed research.
2. Make sure that you include your main argument (or what you expect your main argument to be)
3. You might want to include your position in scholarship on the subject of your research.
4. It should not be more than **500 words long**. (we have used 61 words on this slide...)

The BIBLIOGRAPHY

What is a bibliography?

- ▶ A bibliography submitted at the beginning of a period of research is a bibliography of the materials (primary and secondary) that you **expect** to use.
- ▶ It **will** change over the course of your work.
- ▶ It's there to show that you have done the necessary **preparation** to proceed with your project.

What is a good bibliography?

- ▶ A bibliography that covers all of the ancient sources and evidence and the majority of the essential modern scholarship relevant to the proposed research, presented in strict accordance to the referencing guidelines.

But how do I know what I am going to use?

- ▶ What are the primary sources (literary, epigraphical, papyrological, iconographical, archaeological) that you have already identified?
- ▶ What are the main pieces of scholarship that you have already read or identified as necessary reading?

So what do I put in?

- ▶ You need to divide your bibliography into two sections: one for primary sources and one for scholarship.
- ▶ Remember to include translation details if you know them.
- ▶ How long your bibliography is depends on your specific subject. What matters is that you include all that you can.
- ▶ Remember to use the L'Annee Philologique

How should a bibliography look?

- ▶ Follow the guidelines given in the referencing guidance.
- ▶ You can find the Handbook on Harvard in the LRC pages, and the Classics supplement on the Moodle page for this module.