## **Critical Evaluation of Journal Article**

**Example of how to familiarize yourself with an academic article and how it is constructed (a model for *your* writing); Reading for project-relevant insight**

Everyone please download and print out the following article:

***Canadian Journal of Urban Research***, Winter 2001 v10 i2 p217(20)

**Uses and abuses of urban sustainability indicator studies.** *Meg Holden.*

To download: go to Gordon Library web site: [www.wpi.edu/Academics/Library/Databases/](http://www.wpi.edu/Academics/Library/Databases/)

Choose **Expanded Academic ASAP** database, and input the following search criteria:

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| **Keyword search**  **Click in the entry box and enter search term(s)**   Search for words in title, citation, abstract in entire article content  Type words to search for. You can use AND, OR, NOT. Results are sorted by date. |

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| **Limit the current search (optional)** | |
| to articles with text  to refereed publications |  |

Scroll through the resulting eight articles and click on the correct title and print document (note: this web version is better quality than the optional .pdf version).

**Read and take notes in the margins as follows:**

Read closely the “Abstract” and “Introduction” sections (1 paragraph each): what is the section’s purpose? How does the author try to persuade you?

Under “Urban Sustainability Studies” section (pp. 2-6), read the first sentence of each paragraph and the very last paragraph entirely (and anything more you’d like): What is the purpose of this section?

Skim pp. 7-16 for material relevant to your project.

Read “From Indicators to Implementation” and “Conclusion” sections (pp.16-18). What are the author’s main points, and how do they relate to your project?