

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/

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

Keyword search

Click in the entry box and enter search term(s)

urban sustainability

Search

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.

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?