

Search Strategy Journal

Instructions : This assignment focuses on the research process, particularly creating an effective search strategy. The goal of this assignment is to have you reflect on the research process through writing about your experience of it. You must answer all the questions on this assignment sheet with a **minimum** of one paragraph. Number your entry according to the question you are answering. If you need more than one paragraph to respond, then write more.

This assignment favors process over polish. Do not worry about spelling, grammar, etc. However, if you hand-write the assignment, make sure that your writing is legible. If the assignment will be hand-written, you should use paper with margins to make it easier for you and me to write comments beside the journal entries. If you are going to type your entries, create a wide enough margin for responses.

Use your journal entries to contribute to class discussion.

The journals will be collected.

Before You Research

1. Describe a time when you encountered difficulty doing research related to a school assignment.
2. What was it that frustrated you about the research process?
3. What did you do to resolve this difficulty and complete the research?

Reflecting on Your Research Process

4. What Search Terms did you use when you started researching?
5. What results did you get with those terms?
6. Did you have to modify your search at all by using other terms? What new terms did you use?
7. What results did you get when you modified the terms?
8. What was the first resource you used and why did you choose to begin your research with it instead of with another?
9. How easy or difficultly was this resource to use? Explain.
10. What material did you find when consulting this resource that could be included in your paper or project?
11. What other resources did you use? Using these resources, what materials did you find that could be included in your paper or project?

Research Process Round Up

12. What would you do differently during the research process?
13. Were there parts of the research process where you should have spent more time and effort?
14. Have you learned anything that you would apply during the research process in the future?