

Research Log

Name:

Assignment:

Pt. 1 –Engaging with Research

Briefly describe your research interest (don't sweat – doesn't have to be perfect & it might change as your research – just to help keep your thoughts together)

Where are you wanting to search? Be as complete as you can. Sources for search can be people, books, websites, film, newscasts, databases, natural world (observation), music (lyrics, instruments), etc.

What search terms are you using? Be on the lookout for new, related terms in your search results. Jot them down here when you find something new.

Finding anything interesting? What makes it interesting?

What do you want to know more about?

Are you finding anything that isn't relevant? Why isn't it relevant to your inquiry?

What are you saving to look at more deeply? (Make sure that *at the very least* you write down the title and author(s) - you don't want to lose any sources you've found! Many databases have an option to make a citation for you):

Are there any new ideas that look useful? Did any new dimension related to your original topic emerge from your research?

Has your research project changed during this process? (It's okay if it has – that's part of doing research!)

Free writing page – jot down notes, reminders, ideas, etc.



Pt. 2 – Engaging with Your Sources

Pick one source you think you'll use:

Source Citation (Make sure that *at the very least* you write down the title and author(s)- you don't want to lose any sources you've found! Many databases have an option to make a citation for you):

Why is your source useful?

How does your source relate to your research question? What did you learn about your research question from reading your source?

(If you have something you think you might use later, you might want to write down the **page number or some other way to find it** – this will help you find it when you're putting together your project!)

What new or interesting information did you learn from this source?

Did you learn anything that you disagreed with? How can you use that disagreement for your project?

Did you learn anything that you agreed with? How can you use that agreement for your project?

What did you like best about your source? The least?

Other thoughts:

What kind of questions do you have after reading/listening/ talking to your source?

How do this person's ideas that you've encountered here relate to other ideas you've found during this research project?



Pt. 3 – Exchanging Ideas

Share with a friend!

Swap research questions with a friend & tell them about your project – what’s gone well, what’s been hard.

What have you learned from your peer about their research project?

What suggestions do you have for them?

What suggestions do they have for you?

Take a moment to brainstorm some search terms from each other’s research question:

New Search Terms from Discussion with Peers:

New Search Terms from discussion with Instructor:

