

RESEARCH TOPICS

This is a guide to the Library's collection on Research Topics. The purpose of this Research Guide is to help identify sources for use in selecting topics for research. It is not comprehensive, but rather provides a good starting point for research. From these sources, you may be able to locate other related works. Please don't hesitate to ask a librarian if you need further assistance.

Subject Headings:

English Language – Rhetoric	Report Writing
Research Methodology	Writing

Call Numbers For Browsing:

HC 10-1085	Economic History and Conditions
HN 1-981	Social History, Social Problems, Social Reform
HQ 1-2039	The Family, Marriage, Women
HV 1-9960	Social Pathology, Social and Public Welfare, Criminology
QH 75-77	Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection
QH 426-470	Genetics
R 131-784	History of Medicine
RA 1-1270	Public Aspects of Medicine
U 1-900	Military Science (General)
UA 10-997	Armies: Organization, Description, Facilities, Etc.
Z 657-659	Censorship

Periodical Indexes:

Academic OneFile – Comprehensive database with millions of articles from journals and other reference sources.

Points of View Reference Center – Database of over 200 topics with an overview, point (argument) and counterpoint (opposing argument), Guide to Critical Analysis, periodical and newspaper articles, book sections, biographies, primary source documents, images, and video. Topics include: affirmative action, alternative medicine, cloning, gun control, immigration, Iraq, stem cell research, and many more. Also includes guides on debating, developing arguments, evaluating sources, writing papers, and more.

OmniFile Mega – General database with information on topics including education, science, humanities, social sciences, and more.

SIRS – Includes articles and graphics on social, scientific, economic, health, historic, business, political, global issues, music, art, film, literature, architecture, performing arts, religion, design, culture, philosophy, current and historic government documents, and information about the federal government, U.S. Justices, U.S. Presidents, and U.S. Supreme Court decisions. Of particular interest may be the “Pro Vs. Con” section located on the right-hand side of the page.

Journals: We own numerous periodicals covering interesting topics for research projects. Some titles to view for general ideas and information include:

<i>Audubon</i>	<i>Bioscience</i>	<i>Business Week</i>	<i>CQ Researcher</i>
<i>Consumer Reports</i>	<i>Discover</i>	<i>Environment</i>	<i>Futurist</i>
<i>Health</i>	<i>Maclean's</i>	<i>Money</i>	<i>Mother Earth News</i>
<i>Mother Jones</i>	<i>National Geographic</i>	<i>Newsweek</i>	<i>Popular Mechanics</i>
<i>Popular Science</i>	<i>Psychology Today</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Scientific American</i>
<i>Skeptic</i>	<i>Social Problems</i>	<i>Society</i>	<i>Time</i>
<i>Smithsonian</i>	<i>US News and World Report</i>	<i>Utne</i>	<i>World</i>

Book Series: These series have various call numbers, cover a wide selection of topics, and are especially useful for argumentative or persuasive papers. To view a list of titles in these series, enter the series title in the “Title” search option of the Library Catalog.

<i>At Issue</i>	<i>Contemporary Issues Companion</i>	<i>Current Controversies</i>
<i>Library in a Book</i>	<i>Point Counterpoint</i>	<i>Opposing Viewpoints</i>
<i>Taking Sides</i>		

Selected Books:

- Barnett, Laurie and Heather McCarron. *Get Wise: Mastering Writing Skills*. Lawrenceville, NJ: Thomas/Peterson's, 2002. PE 1408 .G4895 2002
- Bolner, Myrtle S. *Research Process: Books and Beyond*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall/Hunt, 1997. Z710 .B642 1997
- Fiske, Robert Hartwell. *Dictionary of Concise Writing: 10,000 Alternatives to Wordy Phrases*. Oak Park, IL: Marion Street, 2002. PE1464 .F57 2002
- Harnack, Andrew. *Writing Research Papers: A Student Guide for Use With Opposing Viewpoints*. San Diego: Greenhaven, 1998. LB2369 .H32 1998
- Harris, Jeanette and Andy Mosely. *Strategies for College Writing: Sentences, Paragraphs, Essays*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 2000. PE 1408 .H3457 2000
- Joseph, Nancy L. *Research Writing Using Traditional and Electronic Sources*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1999. LB2369 .J64 1999
- MacDonald, Randall M. *Successful Keyword Searching: Initiating Research on Popular Topics Using Electronic Databases*. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2001. ZA4460 .M33 2001
- McCall, John. *How to Write Themes and Essays*. Lawrenceville, NJ: Thomson/Arco, 2003. PE 1408 .M3935 2003
- McDougald, Dana. *100 More Research Topic Guides for Students*. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 1999. Z710 .M19 1999
- Miller, Walter James. *1,001 Ideas for English Papers*. New York: Prentice Hall, 1994. PE1479 .C7 M54 1994
- Royal, Brandon. *Little Red Writing Book: 20 Powerful Principles of Structure, Style, and Readability*. Cincinnati: Writer's Digest, 2004. PE 1408 .R775 2004
- Rozakis, Laurie. *Schaum's Quick Guide to Writing Great Research Papers*. 2nd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2007. LB 1047.3 .R69 2007
- Seyler, Dorothy U. *Doing Research: The Complete Research Paper Guide*. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 1999. LB2369 .S46 1999
- Stay, Byron L. *Guide to Argumentative Writing*. San Diego, CA: Greenhaven, 1996. PE1431 .S73 1996

Videos:

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| <i>Editing the Paper</i> | HF5718 .E3 1991 |
| <i>Introducing the Research Paper</i> | LB2364 .I676 1991 |
| <i>Wrinkle-Free World of English Composition</i> | [Popular] PE 1408 .W746 1997 |
| <i>Writing the Argumentative Essay</i> | PE1471 .W7 1991 |
| <i>Writing the Research Paper: Selecting and Narrowing a Topic</i> | LB1047.3 .W747 1991 |

E-Books (Available Via NetLibrary):

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| <i>How We Write: Writing As Creative Design</i> | <i>Last-Minute Term Papers</i> | <i>Schaum's Quick Guide to Writing Great Essays</i> |
| <i>Schaum's Quick Guide to Writing Great Research Papers</i> | <i>Writing Good Reports</i> | <i>99 Jumpstarts to Research</i> |

Selected Internet Sites:

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| Research Topics (Center for Defense Information) | www.cdi.org/issues |
| Research Matters | www.researchmatters.harvard.edu/topic_list.php |
| Hot Topics/ Best Information on the Net | http://library.sau.edu/bestinfo/Hot/hotindex.htm |
| Controversial Issues | http://www.accd.edu/pac/lrc/issues.htm |
| Research Idea Generator (Old Dominion University) | http://www.lib.odu.edu/libassist/idea/index.php |
| Choosing and Narrowing the Topic | http://www.lib.iastate.edu/commons/spcm212/02sum/choosing.html |
| Current Events and Controversial Issues | http://www.rlc.dcccd.edu/library/current.htm |
| Choosing Your Topic | www.personal.kent.edu/~hnsmith/topic.htm |
| Homework Center – Social Issues | http://www.multcolib.org/homework/sochc.html |