

Research & Writing Assignments: Library Support

How We Can Help

- *Research workshops*: we can help students make the transition to college-level research by working with you to develop a library research workshop tailored to your assignment and outcomes.
- *Research consultations*: we welcome you to refer your students to us if they're looking for individual research help, or to include your subject librarian's contact information in your syllabus.
- *Subject and course guides*: our Midd Libraries Quick Guide ([go/quickguide](#)) introduces students to the library. The research guide for your subject ([go/guides](#)) provides students with a specialized entry point to resources in your field. We'd be happy to develop a custom guide for your individual course.

Examples

Including a research component in writing assignments helps students practice discipline-specific ways of finding, evaluating, and integrating research with their arguments, skills they need to succeed at the college level and beyond. FYSE courses can be a particularly good place for students to begin the process in a low-stakes way. Here are some assignments for which librarians have provided research support in past courses. (For more assignment ideas, see [go/assignments](#).)

Historical Contextualization of a Literary Text

Assignment: Research and write about historical events that provide the setting for a literary work.

Library Workshop Activity: Using online and print reference sources, as well as information gleaned from books and articles, students collaborate in a Google Doc to provide a detailed overview of an historical event. Students can later refer to the Google Doc as they write a literary analysis of the text.

Project Proposal for Environmental Science

Assignment: Develop a project proposal consisting of a research question and bibliography for an environmental science initiative.

Library Workshop Activity: Students revise and develop a research question based on class discussion, initial search results, and peer review. The research question can then guide continued research, and eventually serve as the foundation for the project proposal.

Annotated Bibliography for an Editorial

Assignment: Compile an annotated bibliography of a variety of sources about a topic of contemporary debate. Write an editorial informed by this research.

Library Workshop Activity: Students learn how to find sources, evaluate their reliability, and cite them. They create a bibliography of three strong sources and three less reliable ones, with reasons for their evaluation. The stronger sources can later be included as part of the assignment's annotated bibliography.

Contact Us!

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- [go/infolit](#): read more about information literacy skills and how we can help