Simple Steps To Research

Have a research assignment? Not sure where to start?

1. Come up with a general topic
Think about a subject related to your assignment that you would like to learn more about. Begin by looking up some general information to find out more.

2. Develop a research question
Use your earlier reading to develop a more specific question or topic to try to answer with more research.

3. Refine Your Search Terms
Use your question to determine what words to search in the Aurora College Libraries' databases. Try to come up with a few related words and synonyms to try.

4. Begin your search
Enter your search terms in the Libraries' database. Once you have results, you can narrow them by adding more terms.

5. Evaluate the information
Check your search results to see if they're a good fit for your assignment. You can refine your search by date or material. If it's very broad, you may need to change your search terms if you don't get the results that you need on your first try.

6. Keep a list of references
As you find sources to use in your assignment, make sure that you record them. This way you'll be able to find them again if you need them. You can also add new sources to this list later to make a references or work cited page.

7. Cite all of your sources
Make sure your list of sources includes all of the information needed to build your citation list later, such as the author, title, and publication date.

Follow these simple steps to develop your topic, find information, and use them in your assignment.

Remember...

- Research assignments take patience and practice. You may need to go back and repeat a step as your question or topic evolves.

For more library information or assistance with your research, contact your campus library or visit our website: auroracollege.libguides.com