

# THE FOUNDATIONS OF ACADEMIC INQUIRY

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01.

## Definition of Research

A research paper is the final product of a process involving research, critical thinking, source evaluation, organization, and writing. It's a dynamic work that evolves as the student engages with and interprets different sources.

Research contributes to knowledge by investigating new insights, filling gaps, challenging paradigms, and expanding understanding through critical analysis.



02.

## Research Question



A good research question should be focused on a single problem or issue, be answerable using available sources, feasible within the constraints of time and resources, specific enough to thoroughly address, complex enough to require analysis, and relevant to the field of study. It should be clear, well-defined, and allow for meaningful investigation and analysis without being too broad or too narrow to answer effectively.

03.

## Steps in the Research Process (1)

**Identifying a research problem:** The first step in the research process is to identify a clear and focused research problem or question. This involves recognizing gaps or issues within existing knowledge and determining a specific area of interest that is both significant and researchable.



04.

## Steps in the Research Process (2)

**Conducting a literature review:** This step involves gathering, evaluating, and synthesizing existing studies and scholarly works related to the topic. The literature review helps to contextualize the research, highlight previous findings, and establish a theoretical framework. It helps the researcher understand what has been done, avoid repeating work, and improve their research question.



05.

## Steps in the Research Process (3)

**Formulating a methodology:** This involves deciding on the research design, methods of data collection (qualitative, quantitative, or mixed), and analysis techniques. The methodology must align with the research objectives and problem, ensuring that the chosen approach is appropriate to answer the research questions effectively and credibly.



Reference:

[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/conducting\\_research/index.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/conducting_research/index.html)