

Research in Undergraduate Education Project Checklist: Sciences

1. Decide on a topic:
 - Talk to professors
 - Ask a professor to serve as your faculty mentor
 - Ask friends and classmates
2. Get an overview of the topic
 - Ask your faculty mentor and/or other professors
 - Encyclopedias
 - Reference books
 - Wikipedia (Note: Wikipedia is good for getting an overview of a topic, but it should NOT be counted on as a definitive source. Make sure you double and triple check the information.)
 - Discipline specific journals on topic or related topics

Note: Jot down important keywords and ideas as you go; make copies of information and keep a running list of all works cited in format that you will use when writing.

3. Decide on a specific project
 - Clear your project with your faculty mentor
 - Start your research in earnest on more specific topic info using methods and sources as stated above.
 - Ask a Librarian for help with your project; Go to the library's homepage: <http://dept.sfcollege.edu/library/>
 - Use the Library's Research Help and Research Guides
 - Search LINCCWEB (the online catalog) for books and/or other materials
 - Search relevant EBSCO and other electronic databases for journal, magazine, and newspaper articles
 - Order any Interlibrary Loans at least 2 weeks before you need them
 - Search Google or Ask.com if you need more information from the WWW
 - Evaluate your websites for currency, objectivity, credibility, accuracy, and scholarly coverage
 - Pick up a copy of the "Avoiding Plagiarism" handout from the Library Reference Desk
 - Create a reference page (also called "Works Cited" page) before you begin writing. Be sure to use the style manual (e.g., MLA, APA, Chicago/Turabian, AMA, APSA, ASA, CSE) preferred by the discipline of your project.
4. Collect physical or mathematical information
5. Analyze Results using appropriate statistics
Ask mentor for help
6. Create graphs or other visual representation of results
7. Write using the style preferred by the discipline and create poster using the following link: <http://dept.sfcollege.edu/rue/festival.htm>
8. Ask your faculty mentor to proofread your poster before you send it to Steve Yongue for printing.