

Module 3 - Research process. Graded assignment

For this assignment, you will submit a topic statement and an overview of your search result. You will need to write a clear description of the **topic of your choice** in a complete sentence delineating points of view of your paper. **The topic of your choice will be used for this assignment and for compiling a bibliography.** You may refer to the sample search model in lesson 3 or to the following guidelines to help you with this assignment.

1. Decide on a current controversial topic. To find ideas about topics, you may consult print reference sources such as *CQ Researcher*, *Issues and Controversies on File*, their indexes list topics alphabetically; you may also try electronic databases such as LBCC Library online catalog, *Proquest Direct* for subject headings and subheadings to help you narrow down your topic. The *Library of Congress Subject Headings* lists subject headings and their narrow or related topics. To find synonyms, consult a thesaurus, which is a book or an online database listing words and their synonyms. Online thesauri are found at:

<http://www.m-w.com/home.htm>

<http://www.thesaurus.com>

2. Write your topic statement in a complete sentence including a point of view on the topic.
3. Identify major concepts of your topic and write them down
4. Think of synonyms for these concepts and use them as necessary
5. Describe what resource or resources (books, periodicals, Internet, interviews, etc.) you would use for a short two-page essay on your topic and give detailed reasons why they are appropriate for this assignment.
6. Conduct the search on your topic using the resource(s) you have selected and briefly describe your search result and how you may modify your search strategy.