

# How Are You (Honestly) Feeling In Your Sessions So Far?



Pin on image

**Please go to the website at the top of the screen and log in!!**  
**Then, let us know what best describes your feelings!**

# Pioneer's **Research Seminar**

## Welcome Scholars!

- We will run 3 Research Seminars (RS) live
  - RS1 – Expectations and Getting Ready for Your Pioneer Experience
  - RS2 – The Research Process and Pioneer Tools
  - RS3 – The Writing Process and Pioneer Tools
- **We will take attendance at the end of each presentation AND your professors will see this and expect you to be experts at the content.**
- Scholars are required to attend all 3

What do you think of when you hear the word  
“research?”



Open ended

# What does “research” mean?

We use the word ‘research’ to describe a wide range of activities:



Checking reviews of the latest mobile phone, gaming system, or movie;



Gathering facts about a particular topic;



Developing a vaccine to combat a global pandemic.

# Why conduct original research?

- The main goal of research and advanced academic scholarship is to *contribute new insight and to participate in a community of scholars aiming to advance collective knowledge.*
- Original does not necessarily require new data being created via surveys or experiments: *Original research can take the form of new comparisons and information gathered via previously unexplored intersections and analysis.*
- *Originality and a contribution to new knowledge* are often key elements when evaluating research papers for academic journals, including the Pioneer Research Journal.

*But how do I conduct original research?*

# Beginning your research process\*

- A. Finding your research topic
- B. Narrowing your focus
- C. Creating your methodology
- D. Conducting your research

\*Though it might vary slightly,  
this is the general order that  
conducting research will take

# Finding your research topic

*Two different (but complementary) approaches:*

1. Think about what originally drew you to this research field and other related hobbies, interests, and coursework. Which specific topics within this field are you passionate about? Why?
2. Reflect on a topic (or topics) you have found most fascinating in the program so far. What questions do you have about this topic? What would like to learn more about?

**Once you get some general ideas from #1 and/or #2, send your professor a message on the LMS listing and explaining these interests and any proposed topics. Ask for their feedback and suggestions!**

What is a topic you are currently interested in based on your previous interests and/or research concentration?



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# Narrowing your focus: best practices

Focus on a *specific* topic in *a new and/or original way*

*Start broad and then get narrower*

Look for *connections among your interests*

# Narrowing your focus

- Sample research topic: *Global Warming*
- Strategies for how to focus:
  - Ask **where**: in Australia
  - Ask **who**: for Aboriginal peoples
  - Ask **when**: in the next five years

**Revised question: ????**

# Narrowing your focus

- Sample research topic: *Food Insecurity*
- What questions could we ask to **narrow this focus?**

# Narrowing your focus: questions for specificity

- Who, what, when, and where?
- How does this relate to other topics in this discipline and others?
- Why is this important?
- What unanswered questions are there about this topic?

# How strong is this research question?

Does brain  
development  
influence teenagers'  
behavior?



Sliding Scale

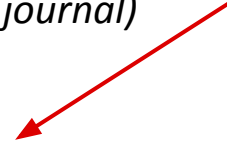
# How to make it better?

*Research question adapted from a research paper in the area of neuroscience by Pioneer Scholar You Jin (2015 journal)*

~~Does brain  
development  
influence teenagers'  
behavior?~~



How does brain development  
influence adolescents' appetite for  
risk-taking behavior?



# How strong is this research question?

What is the best location to get rid of hazardous waste?



Sliding Scale

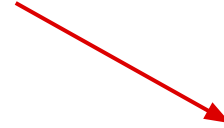


# How to make it better?

~~What is the best  
location to get rid of  
hazardous waste?~~



*Research question adapted from a  
research paper in the area of  
mathematics by Pioneer Scholar Rahil  
(2016 Journal)*



What are the best locations for  
hazardous waste disposal sites  
in Southwestern Maharashtra,  
India?

# How strong is this research question?

Why does there  
need to be special  
protection for  
“vulnerable” groups  
during war?



Sliding Scale

# How to make it better?

~~Why does there  
need to be special  
protection for  
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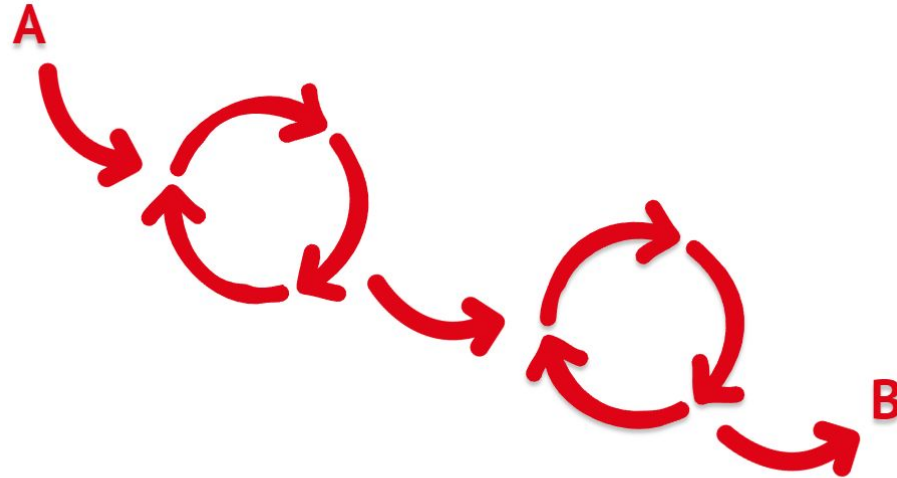


How might LGBTQ groups be  
better protected during armed  
conflict?



*Research question adapted from a research paper  
in the area of Sociology and Political Science by  
Pioneer Scholar Qing (2020 journal)*

However, it's important not to waste valuable research time searching for perfection



Drafting, researching, revising, communicating with professor -

***repeat, repeat, repeat***

Writing an original research question is a collaborative, creative process!

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When you hear the word "methodology," what does that make you think of?



Open Ended

# What is methodology?

Research methodology is the specific procedures or techniques used to identify, select, process, and analyze information to answer your research question.

When conducting research, the methodology helps to critically evaluate a study's overall validity and reliability.

The methodology **answers 2 main questions:**

1. How was the data collected or generated?
2. How was it analyzed?

# Creating your methodology

## Preliminary Methods

What method(s), tool(s), and technique(s) will you use to gather, select and analyze information?



## Verifying Data

How can you check and confirm the data to increase validity and reliability?



## Analyzing and Interpreting Data

What do you hypothesize will be the implications of the data, specifically as they relate to your research question?



# Creating your methodology

“How do environmental regulations affect the fishing industry in international waters?”

1. What *method(s)*, *tool(s)*, and *technique(s)* will you use for data gathering?
2. How can you *check* and *confirm* the data?
3. What do you *hypothesize* will be the *implications* of the data?

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# Conducting your research: Using Oberlin's Library

Through Pioneer's collaboration with Oberlin, all scholars **have full access** to the entirety of the Oberlin Library and its databases!

Your login and instructions will be **emailed to you from Oberlin** and **communication from Pioneer will be posted on LMS** once Oberlin has created them which will be **before your first individual session**.

# Conducting your research: Accessing Oberlin's Library

Scholars access the Oberlin online library resources through a proxy server (EZProxy), and an authentication app of their choice.



## Proxy Server Login

Use your ObieID:

LOGIN

Use your Library Barcode:

Enter your last name:

Enter your barcode:

SUBMIT

# Conducting your research

When looking to begin research,  
you will start at

<https://libraries.oberlin.edu/>

From here you will have two  
options to start conducting your  
research

TERRELL MAIN LIBRARY HOURS & DIRECTIONS 8AM - 12AM

**OBERLIN COLLEGE LIBRARIES**

About News Events Exhibitions FAQs Friends of the Libraries Give

LIBRARIES RESEARCH TOOLS SERVICES & AMENITIES COLLECTIONS

# START SEARCHING

SUMMON ? ↓

KEYWORD ↓

Search books, articles & more

SEARCH

FIND MORE SEARCH TOOLS →

# Conducting your research: Database Search

## A-Z Databases

Find the best library databases for your research.

All Subjects ▾  
All Database Types ▾ All Vendors / Providers ▾ Search for Databases Go

All Subjects  
African Studies (29)  
Anthropology (12)  
Archeology (6)  
Architecture (1)  
Art & Architecture (32)  
Astronomy (8)  
Biography (2)  
Biology (25)  
Business (13)  
Chemistry (12)  
Chinese Studies (13)  
Cinema & Media Studies (10)  
Classics (9)  
Comparative American Studies (21)  
Computer science (13)  
Creative Writing (4)  
Dance (5)  
East Asian Studies (23)  
Economics (13)

Popular Databases

The most frequently-used databases

**Academic Search Complete** Popular  
Multidisciplinary - good for nearly all subjects. Scholarly and trade journals, popular magazines, newspapers, conference proceedings, book reviews, and more.

**JSTOR** Popular  
Scholarly journal archive for the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences; current issues (usually the last 2-5 years) are not digitized by JSTOR and may be obtained elsewhere.

**Oxford Reference** Popular  
Hundreds of dictionaries, general reference, language reference, and subject reference works from Oxford University Press.

**Web of Science** Popular  
Alternate Name(s): Science Citation Index, Humanities

From here, you will be able to enter a database fitting your subject matter and surf through articles related to your research area.

“How do environmental regulations affect the fishing industry in international waters?”

An Economics search

Economics (13) ▾ All Database Types ▾ All Vendors / Providers ▾

All A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z #

13 Databases found for Economics

Clear Filters/Browse All Databases

**Best Bets!**

**EconLit** Best Bet  
Comprehensive index of economic literature, including journal articles, working papers, dissertations, and books. Also includes full text for hundreds of journals. Dates of coverage: 1886 to date

**A**

**Academic Search Complete** Popular  
Multidisciplinary - good for nearly all subjects. Scholarly and trade journals, popular magazines, newspapers, conference proceedings, book reviews, and more.

**Annual Reviews**  
Critically reviews the most significant research literature in over 40 focused disciplines within the fields of biomedical, life, physical, and social sciences. These reviews both summarize recent scholarly advances and prompt new research activity. Excellent database of in-depth, secondary sources.

**B**

**Business Source Complete**  
Access to business journals, case studies, company profiles and market research reports, covering all aspects of business, management, finance, accounting, and economics.

# Conducting your research: Keyword Search

“How do environmental regulations affect the fishing industry in international waters?”

The screenshot shows a Summon database search results page. The search query is "international fishing regulations". The results are sorted by relevance and show 11,396 results. The left sidebar contains filters for "Refine your search" and "Content Type".

**Refine your search**

- ☐ Add results beyond Oberlin College
- ☐ Full Text Online
- ☐ Scholarly & Peer-Reviewed
- ☐ Items at Oberlin College
- ☐ OBIS (library catalog)
- ☐ Peer-Reviewed
- ☐ Open Access

**Content Type**

Content Type	Count
Government Document	3.7K
Newspaper Article	3.3K
Journal Article	2.9K
Book / eBook	474

**Discipline**

Discipline	Count
International relations	3.4K

**Search Results**

11,396 results

Sorted by **relevance**

**1** **Precautionary Management and the Development of Future Fishing Opportunities: The International Regulation of New and Exploratory Fisheries**  
by Caddell, Richard

The international journal of marine and coastal law, 01/2018, Volume 33, Issue 1  
... of future **fishing** effort towards new locations, target species and techniques. For transboundary stocks, where a new or exploratory fishery is contemplated, Article 6(6...

**View Now** PDF

**Journal Article** Full Text Online

**View in Context** Browse Journal

**2** **Cooperation and unregulated fishing: interactions between customary international law, and the European Union IUU fishing regulation**  
by Rosello, Mercedes

Marine policy, 10/2017, Volume 84  
.... The European Union implemented a trade suspension against Cambodia under Council **Regulation** 1005/2008, in response to unregulated **fishing** by Cambodian vessels in high seas areas managed by regional...

**View Now** PDF

**Journal Article** Full Text Online

**View in Context** Browse Journal

# Make sure to check in the Handbook for more!

Research Seminars Handbook



Research Seminar Cumulative Hand... | pages: 1 / 67

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academics

**The Pioneer Research Program Research Seminar Handbook**

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Join the Community Advisory Board!	15

1

Pioneer<sup>®</sup>  
academics

Check out the  
**Research  
Seminar 2** folder  
on the LMS.

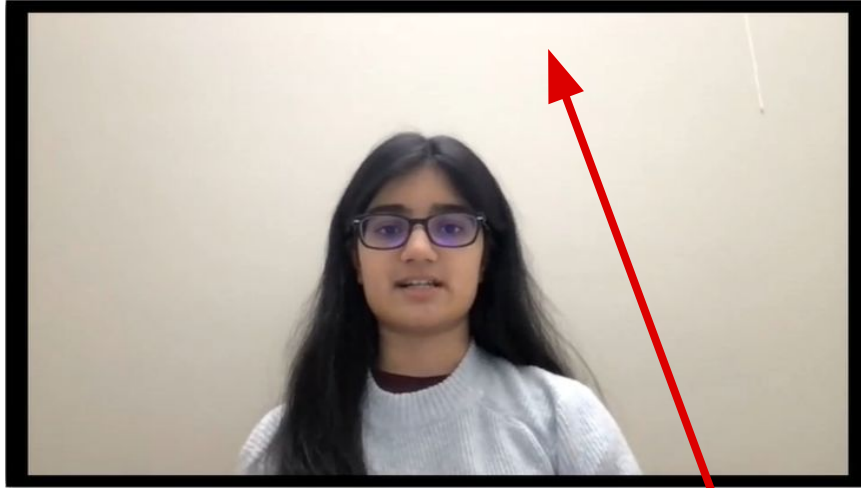
Find extra  
examples, links,  
videos, and  
much more in  
the Handbook!



# Specific Research Areas Alumni Videos



Subha - Mathematics



Additional research areas this video covers: International Relations, Political Science



Though each video indicates what research area the scholar was in, that is NOT the only research area they interacted with during their research. **The bottom of each video page includes a list of the other research areas the scholar's research process and paper dealt with.**

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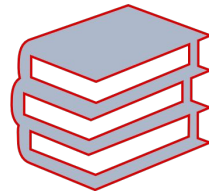
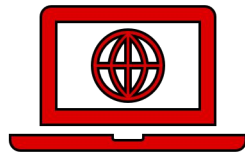
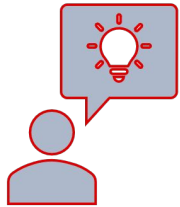
## Reminder

Check your “Course Materials” section on the Pioneer LMS for a guide to things we didn’t cover but are super helpful:

- **Research proposals**
- **Videos of how to use the Oberlin Library**
- **And more!**

Our next seminar is all about **The Writing Process** including how to:

- Develop your thesis, outline and structure your paper, meet top universities' expectations for academic integrity, use the Writing Center, and SO MUCH MORE!



**Please stay on for registration – we are almost done!**

Enter the information to receive credit for attending



Registration/attendance