



CONDUCTING RESEARCH

A STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS

1

IDENTIFY YOUR TOPIC

Decide and develop what you will be writing about. This could be a description, thesis, phrase, etc.

2

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This can be thought of as “pre-research”. Look for information without focusing on credibility. Instead, focus on getting to know your topic.

3

LIBRARY DATABASE

Most schools provide students with free access to databases full of credible sources. The [Kares Library](#) is an excellent first place to start.

4

JOURNALS AND ARTICLES

Peer-reviewed journals and articles provide in-depth content related to specific content. Read for understanding! Professional insights equips your argument with support.

5

INTERNET SOURCES

Sources not peer-reviewed or from certified databases can be just as useful, but require proofing. Uses websites that end in .org, .edu, or .gov.

6

EVALUATE

Ask yourself, “Are my sources relevant to my topic?”, “Do they support my argument or thesis?”, “Are they credible and reliable?”

7

CITE

Once you are satisfied with your research, decide what format they should be cited in. Common formats include MLA, APA, and Chicago/Turabian.