

Speech Research: Working with Your Topic

1

What is your topic?

Google your topic & learn more about it

2

What do you want to say about your topic? What do you want to learn more about?

Use Wikipedia or another online source to identify a specific focus for your research.

What is your *focused* topic?

3

Write your topic as a question.

Use the Five Ws to brainstorm researchable questions.

4

Google your question.

Skim through the results—what are some potential answers to your question?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Use your Research Question and answers to organize your research and outline your speech.

Understand your Assignment

How long is the final project?

How many sources do you need?

What kinds of sources do you need? Books? Articles? Reliable websites?

Find a book on your topic

- Go to the Library's [Catalog](#)
- Search using your *narrowed* topic
- If you don't get the results you want, try your original topic

Title
Author
Call #
Title
Author
Call #

Find an article from a Library database

- Go to the Library's [Databases](#) and select a General Database
- Search your *narrowed* topic AND one of the potential answers you found

Title
Author
Publication (Source) Name
Title
Author
Publication (Source) Name

Find a Website

- Use the CRAP test to evaluate the site
 Currency Reliability/Relevance Authority Purpose/Point of View

Article title
Author
Website name (include .org/.com/.edu/.gov)
Article title
Author
Website name (include .org/.com/.edu/.gov)