

Research Planning Worksheet

Approximate Time Needed: 4 Hours (More if you complete suggested work...which would be a REALLY good idea.)

Similar to AP Seminar, College Board wants you to present your AP Research academic paper with a leading question; however, in AP Research this question is called a Research Question (RQ). The following concepts are things to consider when attempting to build an AP Research RQ. Complete the chart requirements below in your Google document and draft an initial RQ. Remember, the topic you decide to work with must hold your interest for the entire year. Sit and reflect about your true personal and academic interests for this course prior to completing this chart.

Creating a Research Question: Complete the following reflection questions on your Google document. The following elements are critical when attempting to build your research question. If you are struggling to understand the four major concepts - focus, scope, value, and feasibility - do not forget that these topics will be reviewed in depth in September. After answering the questions in this chart, attempt to write your research question. You will need this RQ at the start of the year.

Concept	Description	Reflection Questions (Required)	Additional Work (Suggested)
<p><i>Focus</i> ----- <i>Research Discipline and Topic</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Discipline:</i> Lens or section of focus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Art ○ History ○ Humanities ○ Science ○ Social Science ○ Mathematics ● <i>Topic:</i> Specific interest within a discipline that creates the basics of your research question 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What discipline do you feel you are most successful at in school? ● What discipline would you enjoy working in during your research? ● What details can you add to your discipline to shape your topic interest? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gather 5-7 research articles in the discipline of your interest. <p>You can use these articles to help inform the structure and style of your academic paper. This will help alleviate some time and stress later on when you actually begin drafting.</p>
<p><i>Scope</i> ----- <i>Depth and Size of your Research Project</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Context:</i> The specific setting of your research ● <i>Variables:</i> The items/people/situations/issues/concepts being studied and/or manipulated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What specific things will you study? People? Animals? Things? Concepts? Theories? ● How will you work with these people/animals/things/concepts/theories that you will research? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Find 2-3 research articles that work with similar variables to your research interest. <p>You can use these articles to help inform your research method that you will construct in the course.</p>
<p><i>Value</i> ----- <i>Contribution to the Body of Knowledge</i></p>	<p>The value of your research is determined by how your contribution enhances what is already known about the topic. You are expected to either add to the current conversation of a discipline or use multiple discipline conversations to create new</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will your research change the way we currently see the topic? ● How will your research benefit society or your discipline of study? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Find 2-3 current discussions about your topic. Look for contrasting views about the topic. <p>You will be able to use this content for your literature review or</p>

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	knowledge.		discussion of your topic. This will help you identify the significance of and need for your project.
<p><i>Feasibility</i> ----- <i>Possibility of Research</i></p>	<p>Time, money, and resources can play a major part in determining the ability to complete your research.</p> <p>You will have around two months to complete your actual research project: December and January.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will you physically and/or monetarily need to complete your research? • How long will your research take? • Do you have access to the things you need for research? • Who can help you with your research? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a list of 3-4 potential mentors or organizations that could potentially support your research. <p>College Board requires you to have an Expert Advisor - this is someone your teachers will help you identify in the fall. Building a professional relationship with someone invested in your discipline will strengthen your research and academic paper.</p>

Initial Research Question:
