

Dear AP Research students,

AP Research graduate Andrés Moguel suggested the following summer assignment based on his experiences in the class. This is a brainstorming activity to get you thinking about your areas of interest. You are NOT being asked to commit to a research topic yet, although it would be great if you came up with something you can use! If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at starke@asf.edu.mx.

Name: _____

AP RESEARCH

Let's start thinking about topics and research questions:

Read [The Craft of Research](#) Part II Asking Questions, Finding Answers Chapters 3 and 4 (Pages 37-72)

Read this carefully and take some notes for yourself, as you will be quizzed on this the first week of class. After reading, complete the following activity:

- 1) Think of things that you like or interest you. These could be academic subjects, sports, arts, philosophical matters, etc. Anything! Write them down in the space below:

- 2) Choose one of the topics listed above – one that seems particularly rich and interesting! What questions or problems emerge from this thing or topic of interest? Write these down in the space below.

- 3) Search for sources (preferably scholarly sources which you can access through databases via the ASF library site, or through Google Scholar) and evidence that can help or answer these questions. Summarize at least four items below.

4) What questions are still unanswered, or what problems are still present? Write some down. Discard any questions that seem impractical for you, a student, to answer in a period of six months. (HINT: Ideas can often be found in the last part of a journal article, under suggestions for future research.)

5) Choose your favorite question from number 4. Complete this template to see how it works out.

1. **Topic:** I am studying _____
2. **Question:** because I want to find out what/why/how _____,
3. **Significance:** in order to help my reader understand _____.

6) Cite your sources below, by hand, in MLA style. Check Out [Purdue Owl](#) for more information.