

## AP Research Summer Assignment

**Suggested Reading:** *The Craft of Research* by Wayne Booth et al. ISBN: 9780226239736

### **Assignment:**

Please write 3 research questions and discuss 3 topics that you may use for your paper. These should be ranked in order of importance with #1 being your top pick and #3 being the least likely to be used. Each topic should be accompanied by a paragraph description of how you would collect data or do an experiment to answer the question. You should also include a minimum of 5 potential sources for each topic to help build your background knowledge. The sources can be anything from newspapers, journal articles, videos, books, court cases, studies, etc. Use APA for source citation.

### **Questions to consider as you construct your research question:**

1. Does the question deal with a topic or issue interesting enough to spark my own thoughts and opinions?
2. Is the topic “an academic or real-world problem, question, or issue”?
3. Can the topic be approached through multiple perspectives or lenses?
4. Is the question easily and fully researchable?
5. What type of information do I need to answer the research question? For example, the research question, "What impact has deregulation had on commercial airline safety?" will require certain types of information:
  - o Statistics on airline crashes before and after
  - o Statistics on other safety problems before and after
  - o Information about maintenance practices before and after
  - o Information about government safety requirements before and after
6. Is the scope of this information reasonable (e.g., can I accomplish this task in the allotted time and come to a solution, conclusion or resolution?)
7. Given the type and scope of the information that I need, is my question too broad, too narrow or okay?
8. What sources will be able to provide the information I need to answer my research question (journals, books, Internet, government documents, people)?
9. Can I access these sources?
10. Given my answers to the above questions, do I have a good-quality research question that I actually will be able to answer by doing research?