



HACK THE RESEARCH PROCESS

Library Pocket Zine

STEP 1.
Know the library!

- Research Help
- Technology
- Study Space
- Instruction
- Hours

*Open 7 days—Spring & Fall

Let's get started ...
 REVIEW YOUR ASSIGNMENT
 move to **STEP 2**

In-person Help

- ♦ Get research support - info desk
- ♦ Checkout books—circulation desk

Online Help

- ♦ Chat w/a librarian 24/7
mtsac.edu/library/chat.html

Research Guides

- ♦ Review the research process
mtsac.libguides.com

Workshops

- ♦ Take a library workshop.
 Sign-up - mtsac.libguides.com/workshops
- ♦ Developing Research Topics
 Finding and Evaluating Books
 Finding and Evaluating Articles
 Evaluating Websites
 Library Tour

STEP 2.
Topic

Do you have a topic?

NO

Refer to your assignment
 Choose topic of interest or passion

PUZZLED?
 Learn more -
 "Understanding Your Assignment"
 research guide
mtsac.libguides.com

YES
 CHEERS!
 Move to STEP 3

STEP 6.
Evaluate Information

Have you evaluated your sources?

NO

Review for:
 Relevance
 Currency
 Accuracy
 Authority
 Purpose

PUZZLED?
 See "Evaluating Sources"
 research guide or go to
mtsac.libguides.com
 a library workshop
mtsac.libguides.com/workshops

YES
 BRAVO, YOU DID IT!
 Time to write
 Get tutoring support at
 THE WRITING CENTER OR
 LEARNING ASSISTANCE CENTER

STEP 3.
Background Research

Are you an expert in this topic?

NO

Discover more -
 GVRL
mtsac.libguides.com/databases

PUZZLED?
 Attend a
 "Starting Your Research"
 Writing Center workshop
mtsac.edu/writingcenter/workshops

YES
 GREAT!
 Move to STEP 4

STEP 5.
Search Databases & Catalog

Do you have library sources?

NO

Search for articles in [databases](#)
 Find books in [library catalog](#)

PUZZLED?
 See "Finding Sources research guide" or go to
 a library workshop
mtsac.libguides.com/workshops

YES
 CHEERS!
 Move to STEP 6

STEP 4.
Topic Development

Can you list your main topic? Subtopics?

NO

Write your main topic
 Pick 3 subtopics important to you

PUZZLED?
 Attend a
 "Developing Topics" Library workshop
mtsac.libguides.com/workshops

YES
 AWESOME!
 Move to STEP 5