

ENHANCING RESEARCH SKILLS COMPONENTS OF ASSIGNMENTS

Good Assignments

- Include library research
- Present opportunities to explore the literature of the discipline
- Include opportunities to compare types of publications such as trade, scholarly or popular journals and magazines
- Emphasize the process of research as well as the product
- Integrate librarian-guided library work into class sessions
- Require students to present information as evidence
- Expect students to evaluate information for reliability and relevance
- Teach citation and paraphrasing skills

Possible Roadblocks

- Not making sure a library research assignment is 'doable'
- Not ascertaining that student have acquired or have access to the acquisition of workable information literacy tools
- Expecting students to be savvy online researchers
- Topics not well defined prior to the start of research
- Not consulting with librarians in developing assignments that require library or online research
- Not defining sufficiently the desired types of resources students should consult.