Understand Your Assignment

If you are unclear about any of this, check with your professor.

Mechanics

☐ When is it due? _______________

☐ Are there draft dates?

☐ How long should it be? _______________

☐ Is there a required format? (margins, double-spaced, font)

Sources

☐ How many sources do I need? _______________

☐ What kinds of sources do I need? (scholarly journal articles, peer reviewed, books, films, primary sources, secondary sources) *When in doubt, ask a librarian to help you identify sources.*

☐ Where shall I look for sources? (library databases, the library’s *OneSearch* catalog, Google, specific websites/organizations)

Content

☐ Is my research topic broad enough to find information, and sufficiently narrow so that I am not overwhelmed with information?

☐ Do I understand how to organize and outline my paper?

☐ Relevant citation style? (Modern Language Association, MLA. American Psychological Association, APA. Chicago Manual of Style. Other?)

Support

☐ Who can help me with research? (The Research Help desk in the library, professor)

☐ Who can help me in writing my paper? (The Writing Center, professor)