Know the Assignment

Attention to detail is vital!
The Details: *always check your syllabus*

- How many pages/words?
- What type of resources are allowed/required?
  - Academic journal (scholarly/peer reviewed)
  - Popular (magazine, newspaper, website)
  - Primary - original documents/object created during time being studied
  - Secondary - comments/analyze events/people, etc. after the fact. Refer to orig. document.
  - Tertiary - compilation of date/info about the topic. (encyclopedia)
- Format/Citation style (how many citations)?
  - MLA
  - APA
  - Chicago
- Broad or specific topics?
- Analytical /Expository/ Argumentative?
Brainstorming...yes it helps!

Lists (self-explanatory)
Outline (type a personalities)
Webbing (main idea in center)
Storyboard (visual learners)
RESEARCH PAPER STUDENT SAMPLE OUTLINE

I. Introduction: The Red Panda
II. Description
   A. Taxonomy and distinction from other species they are similar to
   B. Anatomy
   C. Differences between male and female
   D. Physiology: how the body works internally: digestive, circulatory, nervous systems
III. History
   A. Where they were discovered
   B. Time of discovery compared to other similar species
   C. How were they named?
   D. Use by human cultures/ symbolism
IV. Habitat
   A. Where they can be found in the world
   B. What type of ecosystems
   C. How are they specifically adapted to survive
V. Diet
   A. What do they eat?
   B. Are they specially designed to eat particular prey?
VI. Reproduction and Growth
   A. Growth and maturity age of panda
   B. Reproduction process/mating behaviors
   C. # offspring
VII. Communication
   A. Non-vocal signs and what they mean
   B. Vocalization
   C. Inter-species as well as intra-species
VIII. Other Social Behaviors
   A. Hierarchy in groups or solo? Group dynamics.
IX. Threats and Survival Techniques
David's Research Storyboard

**Hazard Modeling**
Novel spatial analysis technologies for modeling spatially distributed hazards [collaboration with Google and USGS]

**Exposure Modeling**
Novel technologies for capturing exposure and its changes over time [Google, World Bank, GFDRR]

**Resilience Policy and Planning**
Modeling risk trajectories

**Status Quo**
Risk, impacts, policy, planning

**Vulnerability Modeling**
Statistical procedures for modeling fragility including time-varying fragility [GEM, GFDRR]

**Disaster Recovery**
Modeling recovery over time [GEM, UCLA]

**Post-Disaster Damage Assessment**
Remote sensing and geostatistical analysis for rapid post-disaster loss estimations

**Loss Prediction**
Propagating uncertainty in urban or regional scale disaster loss estimation

**SAN FRANCISCO**
Building resilience in recovery [World Bank, GFDRR]
Research Question

Leads to search terms & Thesis Statement.
Consider This...

- Something that intrigues/interests you
- Create a list of all the questions you’d like to answer relating to that topic
- Focus on broad topic, but come up with several subtopics that will eventually become part of your thesis statement.
- Do some preliminary searching (search engine & databases) to determine if enough info is available.
Research Question Example:

“How did the lack of women’s rights affect women in the late 18th early 19th century?”

Begin preliminary searching.
Research Question Example:

“How did the lack of women’s rights affect women in the late 18th early 19th century?”

Subtopics:

Legal

Reproductive

Educational
Thesis statement

- At the end of the 1st paragraph
- Should be specific and only discuss what will be written in the paper
- Supported by specific evidence

*Analytical*- evaluates specific parts of an issue/concept

*Expository*- explains a concept/issue/topic to audience

*Argumentative*- makes a claim and supports it with evidence

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/545/01/
Thesis Statement:

Social and historical exploration of women’s rights in the late 18th and early 19th century highlights the deficiency of legal, reproductive, and educational autonomy, which restricted women around the world.
Disclaimer: *may save you from a nervous breakdown*
RESEARCH PLAN

This checklist is designed to aid in the organization of the research process and keep track of completed tasks relating to a project/paper.

Course: ____________________  Assignment: ____________________  Due Date: ____________________

1. Assignment Details Complete by: ______________
   a. How many words/pages? ______________
   b. Type of sources allowed/required:  
      - Academic/scholarly (peer reviewed)  
      - Popular (magazine, newspaper, etc.)  
      - Primary (original document/object)  
      - Secondary (analyze topic)  
      - Tertiary (compilation/encyclopedia)  
      - Websites, etc.  
   c. Format/Style:  
      - MLA  
      - APA  
      - Chicago  
   d. Type of paper:  
      - Informational  
      - Opinion  
      - Argumentative

2. I want to research: ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

3. Because (Why?): ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

4. Develop a Research Question (thesis optional) Complete by: 
   Research Question: ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   a. Keywords (from research question) Complete by: 
      ____________________________________________
      ____________________________________________
      ____________________________________________
      ____________________________________________

5. Preliminary searching Complete by: ______________
   a. Search engines/websites
   b. Databases

6. Targeted Research Complete by: ______________
   a. Determine databases to use:
      ____________________  
      ____________________
      ____________________
   b. Evaluate Sources Complete by:
      http://www.galileo.org.edu/ezproxy.mga.edu/scholar/mgsd/search/Welcome
      ____________________  
      ____________________
      ____________________
   c. Revisit Research Question (optional) Complete by: 
      ____________________  
      ____________________
      ____________________

7. Do you need assistance from a Librarian?  
   □ Appointment date: ______________

8. Take notes on sources Complete by: ______________

9. Write Thesis Statement Complete by: ______________

10. Write rough draft Complete by: ______________
    a. Need help from SNC?  
    b. Need help from Writing Lab?  

11. Final Draft Completed by: ______________

12. Turn in assignment Due Date: ______________

Additional Resources:

http://www.mgs.edu/library/default.aspx
http://guides.mgs.edu/
http://support.epnet.com.ezproxy.mga.edu/trc/researchGuide.html