**Research Design Proposal Worksheet**

**Name:**

Use this document to outline your research design. Then share this with peers, your professor, or a librarian for feedback. Download this file, save it to your computer, and fill it out as you complete each step in designing your research project. Use it to guide you as you pursue the research project, and update it as you work on the project.

**Understanding the Assignment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. What in your own words is this research assignment asking you to do? |  |
| 1. Who is your audience? |  |
| 1. What are the requirements? (due dates, length, format, citation style) |  |
| 1. What research is required? What and how many sources are required? (books, journals, primary or secondary sources, websites) |  |

**Research Topic**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| State your **Research Topic** |  |
| --Example: | Sugar |

**Research Question**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| State your **Research Question** |  |
| --Example: | Is there a relationship between sugar consumption and depression |

**Plan WHERE to Search --*What types of materials do I need?***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes/No Why? |
| Do I need background information? |  |
| Do I need “scholarly” or “popular” sources? |  |
| Do I need “primary” or “secondary” sources? |  |
| Do I need books or articles? |  |
| Do I need current or historical sources? |  |
| Other places you may need to search for information? |  |

**Plan WHEN to Search: Creating a Research Plan and Calendar**

Review the assignment and the due dates for the assignment and any deliverables along the way such as a research proposal, annotated bibliography, draft, or final draft. Using the Assignment Research Calculator, create a timeline for doing this research project. [**Go to Research Calculator**](https://assignmentcalculator.com/)

Transcribe your timeline into this calendar. Add in exact dates for each stage and deliverable in the project. NOTE: This timeline is only five weeks, but you can expand the table yourself to create more weeks by hitting tab when your cursor is in the bottom right cell of the table.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | M | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri. | Sat. | Sun. |
| WK1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WK2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WK3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WK4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WK5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Plan HOW to Search: Deconstruct Your Research Question**

Restate your Research Question here and put in BOLD the keyword concepts in your research question

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| --example Research Question | Is there a **relationship** between **sugar** **consumption** and **depression**? |
| Your Research Question |  |

**Table of Concept/Keyword Synonyms**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Concept/Keyword** | **Synonyms** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

\*\*Hit Tab in the bottom right cell to add rows