

Research Log in Psychology

Throughout the semester, you will be writing a 3-5 page paper on a topic in psychology. You may write on any one of the general topics listed below. Please select the topic that most interests you.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• communal versus exchange relationships• community psychology• conformity• empathy-altruism hypothesis• individualist versus collectivist cultures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• prisoners' dilemma• prosocial behavior• self-monitoring (i.e., the personality trait)• social dilemma• social facilitation• social identity theory	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• social interdependence (sometimes called outcome dependence)• social loafing• social support• volunteerism
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As you search for your resources electronically and in Dunn Library itself, maintain a **Research Log**. For each step you take in finding your resources, record the process you followed and the results you found by listing the following pieces of information about the search

- Date and time
- The goal of your search. That is the question you are pursuing or the information you are seeking. This provides a rationale for your search.
- The tool or source used (catalog, search engine, journal index, information guide, encyclopedia, or librarian)
- Search strategy. That is the exact combination of terms and operators used in database search, index or table of contents, etc.
- The results. If the search yielded no usable sources, indicate that fact. Otherwise, give the citation information for the sources found.
- Obtaining the sources. Describe what you did to see a copy of this source. This might include viewing the source on a computer, finding the material in the library, or requesting the source via interlibrary loan. If the source was not obtained at the same date and time that the search was done, indicate the date and time that the source was obtained.

Please identify a **total of twelve** resources relevant to the topic you have selected. In finding these resources, be sure you are also adhering to the following guidelines:

- At least **two** of the resources should provide a basic overview of the topic. These resources are most likely to be subject encyclopedias or similar sorts of secondary sources.
- At least one of the resources providing a basic overview of the topic should be on online resource. It's OK if it is also available in print in Dunn Library so long as you use the online version.
- At least one of the resources providing a basic overview of the topic should be a print resource available in Dunn Library's reference section. It's OK if it is also available online so long as you use the print version.
- At least **four** of the resources should be a reports of empirical research (i.e., research in which data were collected from subjects) published in either a journal article or a chapter from an edited book. Although encyclopedias and similar sorts of secondary sources are likely to be useful in helping you get a general sense of a topic area and also helping you narrow down your topic, encyclopedias are usually not acceptable sources to cite in a research paper. Journal articles and books are more likely to be acceptable sources.
- At least one of the journal articles should be in a journal that the library receives in print. It's OK if online access to this article is also available so long as you use the print version, not the online version.
- At least one of the journal articles should be in a journal that the library receives online. It's OK if this article is also available in print so long as you use the online version.

After you have completed your research log, please write a one-page, typed **Reflective Essay** that addresses the following questions:

- What did you learn about the information resources at Simpson?
- What would be helpful in the future to learn about the library and research?

When you turn in your assignment on _____, please put your list of sources on top, followed by your research log and your reflective essay. Please attach a copy of the first page of each of your sources after your reflective essay.