Research Projects in Online Environments

Best Practices and Ideas

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Benefits of Research Projects

Can be highly adaptable and flexible

Can take many different forms

Can help students develop a range of valuable, transferable skills

- *Communication skills*
- *Critical thinking and evaluation skills*
- *Search and information seeking*
- *Project management skills*

Challenges of Research Projects

Research is a complex undertaking and an area where many undergraduates are still working to develop skills and proficiencies

- *Threshold concept theory in information literacy instruction*

- *Developing research assignments that help students master difficult concepts and skills*

Challenges of Research Projects in Online Environments

Online learning environments also pose unique challenges for students conducting research

- *Distance and challenges with connection*

- *Access to materials, resources, and help*

Structuring Research Assignments in Online Environments

1. Break down and scaffold your content

2. Introduce opportunities to practice skills

3. Introduce opportunities for reflection

4. Consider creative applications

5. Consider multiple deliverables

Research Assignment Ideas in Online Environments

Everything but the paper assignments

Information and digital literacy skill-building activities

Group research projects

Communicating research in different formats

Learn More

The Emory Libraries are always happy to partner with you on developing research assignments. See more ideas and resources:

Flexible Teaching Toolkit –
https://cfde.emory.edu/toolkit/index.html

Library Resources and Support for Flexible Teaching –
https://guides.libraries.emory.edu/remoteteach

Emory Libraries Instruction Services for Faculty and TAs -
https://libraries.emory.edu/instructors/instructional-services.html

Thank you!

Questions? Get in touch at sarah.e.morris@emory.edu