

"Preliminary Research Question and Investigation"

Due Date: Saturday, Sept. 3 by 11:59 pm

Directions: As Chapter 15 of *They Say / I Say* mentions, the best way to begin an inquiry driven project, is to start with a strong research question. This is a pivotal first step because it can help guide and focus your research, while also allowing you to interact with what you find, building off it to develop your own unique point and perspective.

Thus, for this assignment, I want you to consider a topic that you would like to investigate for your final project and develop **a research question** to help you explore this topic and see what others have said. Feel free to use the templates from *They Say/ I Say* to help with this assignment: [Fall 2021 Research Question Templates.pdf](#)

Then, after you have carefully considered and created your research questions, develop a list of five to ten key terms and phrases that you may be able to utilize in both the paper itself and to help you in your research.

Here is an example:

What is the relationship between how we define intellectualism within college and real-world success? Is it true that our current definition of "intellectualism" is the basis of success within college and thus in life as many assume, or are we creating unneeded barriers as Gerald Graff suggests?

■ **Potential Research Terms:**

- Intellectualism
- Barriers in education
- Literacy
- Student perspective
- Student retention