Revising, Part 2: <u>Identifying Gaps in Your Research</u>

Early in your writing process, you were asked to identify gaps in the larger research in general. One of the goals of developing your research should be to fill these gaps—to talk about topics or develop arguments that other researchers have not talked about or have not talked about enough. Use a similar process to identify any gaps in your *own* research. Consider this:

- What is most interesting or striking about your argument/topic/question?
- What key terms are associated with the problem?
- Does *your* work address all of the relevant terms? What terms did you not explain? What terms did you choose not to explain?
- Does *your* work cover the same ground as other researchers? How does it depart from their work?
- Does *your* work address the population that is most affected or interested in the problem?
- Is your work accessible to outsiders to the issue? What do outsiders need to know that insiders do not?
- What were the limitations of your study? What resources (time, funds, population, other) forced you to change tactics in your research? What information were you expecting to find but unable to trace?
- What advice would you give to someone who would need to repeat your process?