Getting Started with Research and Inquiry

- Determine an appropriate scope of investigation and narrow/broaden topic and inquiry questions based on personal interest, findings, assignment details and timeline.
- Recognize options for help and display willingness to seek help from appropriate experts.
- Gather information on a topic from multiple sources.
- Explain why research is an open-ended process.

Exploring Strategically

- Design and refine needs and basic search strategies as necessary, based on search results.
- Recognize and assess the value of distinctness of information resources (e.g., website resources, online journals, print material).
- Match information needs to appropriate search strategies and tools.
- Translate inquiry questions into different types of search language (e.g. natural language, keywords, controlled vocabulary) that are effective for searching.
- Apply a range of effective strategies to find related sources.
- Utilize divergent (e.g., brainstorming) and convergent (e.g., selecting the best source) thinking appropriately when searching.
- Recognize and explain issues of access or lack of access to information sources.
- Persist in information searches despite challenges and sometimes conflicting information.

Evaluating Authority and Value

- Use research tools and indicators of authority to critically evaluate information, assessing the reliability, validity, accuracy, authority, timeliness, impact and point of view or bias of information sources.
- Trace citations and links back to original sources.
- Acknowledge biases that may privilege some sources of authority over others.

Contributing to the Scholarly Conversation

- Recognize that as new academics students are becoming contributors to the ongoing scholarly conversation.
- Give credit to the original ideas of others through proper attribution and citation.
- Accurately summarize the content of a resource.
- Organize information in meaningful ways, appropriate to audience and context.
- Demonstrate the ability to find resources and utilize services both virtually and face-to-face via the MSU Library or another library.

6.8.16 Faculty meeting endorsement