Research as Inquiry

Approach research as open-ended exploration and engagement with information. Tap into your intellectual curiosity, ask questions, and be flexible – ambiguity can help the research process!

What do you already know about the topic, and what do you need to explore further?

What is the dialogue or debate surrounding your topic?

Think about your ideal source. Who might produce this information?

Has your research taken you down an unexpected path? Should you modify your focus?

Research is iterative and depends upon asking increasingly complex or new questions whose answers in turn develop additional questions or lines of inquiry in any field. (ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education, 2015)