Why Assign Research Projects?

Research Projects provide students an opportunity to:

♦ engage and master the course content
♦ refine research skills
♦ develop information literacy skills
♦ learn how to effectively find, evaluate, use, and present information

Other reasons? ___________________________________________
______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________

Quick Tip:
To help prevent plagiarism, require students to write an in-class paragraph about their research.


Basic Tips for Effective Assignments

♦ Collaborate with library faculty
♦ Encourage, even require, students to consult the reference librarian and to use library resources
♦ Schedule a library class to emphasize the library is friendly and important
♦ To minimize confusion, explain the requirements in a written handout
♦ Assume that your students have minimal research skills

What are your concerns? ________________________________________
______________________________________________________
**Why Collaborate with Library Faculty?**

Librarians are information experts. We will collaborate to design assignments that will promote effective research skills such as:

♦ When to use print sources, library databases, or the **WWW**

♦ Effective search techniques for library databases and the **WWW**

♦ Knowing the difference between library databases and freely available **WWW** sites

♦ Avoiding terminology pitfalls that create confusion. For example, What does it mean when students say: “I may not use the Internet.”

How can we assist you? ______________________________

**Why Use Library Resources?**

Everything is **not** on the **WWW**. The library has more resources than ever before. Recommend, **even require**, that students consult the reference librarian and use library resources because:

♦ Students spend frustrating hours searching the **WWW** without finding appropriate sources

♦ Library databases at SCCC are appropriate for academic needs. They provide access to periodical articles that are not freely available on the **WWW**

♦ Learning higher-level research skills improve results

**How Can I Prevent Plagiarism?**

♦ Require steps such as proposals, idea outlines, working bibliographies, etc.

♦ Require students to choose from course-specific topics

♦ Require oral reports or an in-class paragraph about the topic

Other Strategies? ______________________________________

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