Navigating the Non-Linear Research Process

Gina Petersen
Assessment Librarian & Liaison to Radio, TV, and Film
gina.petersen@northwestern.edu

Jason Kruse
Undergraduate Engagement Librarian & Liaison to Sociology
jkruse@northwestern.edu
The Research Process

What are the parts of the research process and what is the order?
The Research Process: How it is often shown

1. Topic Definition
2. Source Discovery
3. Analysis
4. Writing
The Research Process: It is Messy

“Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose.”
— Zora Neale Hurston
The Research Process: In Practice

- Negative portrayals of Catholic Church in media
- Australian stolen generations in media
- Post WWII forced migration of British children
- Media coverage of the discovery of this story in the 1980s
- 20 Australian newspaper articles

- Ethnography
- Postcoloniality
- Anthropology of Nationhood
- Linguistic Anthropology
- Anthropology of Ethics
- Anthropology of Childhood

- Media Analysis
- State Self-imagination
- Creation of social categories in media
- Simplifications created by culture of liberalism

- Forgotten Australians Stolen Generation Child Migrant Narratives
- Interaction of state and media in creating social categories

- National Apologies

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- Forgotten Australians Stolen Generation Child Migrant Narratives

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The Research Process
Who do you turn to when you get stuck?
People to Turn To

• Faculty
• Librarians
• Other Graduate students
• Campus staff
Unexpected Twists and Turns

- Covid
- Changes in timelines and priorities
- The Data do not exist
- Serendipity
- Scope Creep
- Real Life Twist and Turn: Ethical Dilemma
- Trust
Tips

• Time management
• Schedule time to work
• Project limitations and opportunities
• Establish a support network
• Understanding where your skills can improve
• Taking advantage of campus services
Services & Tools

- Library Subject Specialists
- Graduate student groups
- Health and Wellness Resources (TGS)
- Graduate Writing Place
- Dissertation Proposal Development & Dissertation Boot Camp
- Research funding
- Citation Management
- GIS
- Quantitative and Qualitative data analysis
- Text mining
- Digital Humanities
- Copyright
- NUworkspace
- Software through NU
- Sage Research Methods Core Collection
Potential Readings


Questions?