

Find Topic Ideas

If you are having trouble selecting a topic for a research assignment, check out some of the sources listed below which will give you topic ideas and overviews that can help you formulate your thesis statement.

Library Databases

Online library databases offer a vast collection of current information covering many topics. Here you will find academic journals, newspaper and magazine articles, videos and audiofiles. Follow the links on the library website and remember to use the password **rainbow** when searching at home.



Canada in Context- this database provides a list of current social issues – click the “view all” button next to “social issues” or browse topics from the top menu



Greenr – this database provides a list of current topics and issues with an environmental focus. Click “browse issues and topics”.



Health and Wellness Resource Centre – this database is a wonderful resource when you need to find current health topics.



Science in Context – here you will find current articles on many science topics. Click the “browse topics” link.

Browse print book titles and records using the iPac (library catalogue):

Library books are an excellent source of information. Start by searching your library's [catalogue](#) for the following book series: At Issue, Current Controversies, Opposing Viewpoints, Compact Research, and Contemporary Issues for topic ideas. Type the name of the book series in the search box and click the "series" button to see which books are available in your library.

Open sources on the Internet

Browse one of these sites if you are searching for a topic.

Hot Topics for Research Papers and Speeches – Northwest Missouri State University Library:

<http://www.nwmissouri.edu/library/courses/english2/terminde.htm>

Pros and Cons of Controversial Issues:

<http://www.procon.org/>

New York Times, topics:

<http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/subjects/all/index.html>

Rainbow District School Board Library Services, 2015.

Adapted from *Find Topic Ideas*, Reynolds Community College Library, November 2013.

<http://libguides.reynolds.edu/content.php?pid=131931&sid=2478362>