

Carter Joseph Abrescy and Larry Kranich Library Award for Research Excellence

Reflective Essay Prompt

In no more than 1,000 words, describe the research process you undertook to complete your research paper/project and how this experience has changed and advanced your research practice for future papers/projects.

The selection committee will be using the essay to see how well you reflect on the development of the research question or problem, your research process and strategies, source selection, what you learned from this research experience, and the lessons you will apply to future research papers/projects. For group submissions, the essay must also include a description about how the paper/project was an effective group collaboration.

Below are some questions to consider:

- How did you develop your research question or problem?
- How did you go about conducting your research?
 - What tools, resources, and services, including those from the library, did you use to discover your sources?
 - What strategies did you use to discover the sources you used? Explain specific techniques you used while exploring and searching for information.
- What sources did you use in your research paper or project?
- Why did you select the sources that you used in your research paper or project? What criteria did you use to evaluate your sources?
- What challenges did you encounter in your research process? How did you overcome these challenges?
- What did you learn from this research experience?
- If you were starting another research paper or project, what might you do differently or the same?