# Student Research Plan

## Tools and Handouts

| INITIATING INQUIRY | Exploring a Topic  
TCD Checklist  
Potential Sources  
Area Evaluation Checklist  
Posing Inquiry Questions Handout |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| GATHERING INFORMATION | Potential Sources  
Finding and Assessing Sources  
Assessing Sources Handout  
Taking Notes  
Research Frame  
Posing Inquiry Questions Handout |
| DEEPENING UNDERSTANDING | Potential Sources  
Selecting Key Sources  
Analyzing Researched Information  
Writing Evidence-Based Claims |
| FINALIZING INQUIRY | Research Frame  
Forming EBC  
Organizing EBC  
Research Evaluation Checklist  
Repeat Parts II and III |
| DEVELOPING AND COMMUNICATING AN EVIDENCE-BASED PERSPECTIVE | Research Frame  
Organizing EBC  
Synthesizing EBC  
EBC Criteria Checklist  
Connecting Ideas Handout  
Evidence-Based Perspective |
# RESEARCH PORTFOLIO DESCRIPTION

The Research Portfolio helps you store and organize your findings and analysis throughout every step of the research process. Various tools help you develop a research strategy and record, analyze and annotate your sources. Every time you complete a tool or annotate a source, file it in the corresponding section of your portfolio. Keeping an organized portfolio helps you make connections, see what you already have, and determine what you still have left to investigate. It will also provide everything you need to write your conclusions when you finish your research. The portfolio may be in either electronic or paper format.

## PORTFOLIO SECTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTION 1: DEFINING AN AREA OF INVESTIGATION</th>
<th>CONTENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>This section stores all the work you do exploring the topic and choosing an Area of Investigation.</em></td>
<td>Exploring a Topic Area Evaluation Checklist Potential Sources (from pre-searches)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTION 2: GATHERING AND ANALYZING INFORMATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>This section stores all the information you gather throughout your investigation. It also stores your notes and analysis of sources. All the tools should be grouped by source.</em></td>
<td>Potential Sources Annotated Sources Personal Drafts Taking Notes (about sources) Forming EBC</td>
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<tr>
<th>SECTION 3: DRAWING CONCLUSIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>This section stores your Notes and EBCs about Inquiry Paths, your research evaluations, and the personal perspective that you come to at the end of your inquiry. Group the Taking Notes, Forming EBC or Organizing EBC by Inquiry Path.</em></td>
<td>Taking Notes (about Inquiry Paths) Forming EBC Organizing EBC Synthesizing EBC Research Evaluation Evidence-Based Perspective</td>
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<tr>
<th>SECTION 4: DISCARDED MATERIAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>This section stores all the sources and analysis that you have discarded throughout your investigation. The purpose of this section is to keep a record of discarded materials until the end of the research process in case you change your mind and want to use them.</em></td>
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