

FLM: The Early Stages of Research

In-Class Activity *Online Implementation*

You will be put in a break-out room with another classmate. Once in your break-out room, complete the activities below and take notes in a shared Google doc.

Transforming Topics

1. Video 2 Online Activity Follow-up: Choose one of the topics you wrote about in the activity for Video 2 and briefly present it to your partner. Take turns sharing your strategies for narrowing your chosen topic's scope and relating it to your interests. Take notes as your partner describes his or her strategies.
2. Video 3 Online Activity Follow-up: Choose one of the topics you engaged with for Video 3 and briefly present it to your partner. Take turns sharing the two research questions you developed and the strategies you used to draft them. Take notes as your partner discusses his or her research questions.
3. Identifying Strategies: After each of you describes your work with both topics, discuss together the strategies for narrowing topics, linking topics to your interests, and developing initial research questions. Take brief notes on patterns and contrasts you notice in the processes you experienced and the work you drafted; you can write these as bullet points or you can create a table in the Google doc that compares your own and your partner's approaches.
4. Planning for your Assignment. Next, look at the assignment sheet and take turns discussing your ideas for your own research. Work together to consider how each of you can narrow a potential topic, make it meaningful, and brainstorm potential research questions. Discuss what strategies you can apply from the online activities and whether there are unique features of the assignment and the topic you actually want to pursue that mean you will need to use different strategies from the online activities. Take notes from your discussion of your ideas as well as any other notes about the assignment that seem useful. Be prepared to share your Google doc with the class and to summarize which strategies you found most effective and least effective.

Finally, use the strategies and ideas from this module and the in-class pair work to do some further reflection and brainstorming for the assignment.