



Find Topic Ideas

How Do I... Undergraduate Research Guides

Part of the "Start My Research Series"

In this guide you will learn how to:

- Choose topics from a list of suggested ones.
- Where to find more help in your research.
- Other helpful guides like this one!

The list that follows is based on topics that the Undergraduate Library has noted of interest to students in the past few years. The broader categories are in bold, with suggested topics listed below.

Business

- Cybersecurity
- E-business
- Ethics
- Glass ceiling
- Online retail
- Outsourcing
- Sweatshops
- White collar crime

Crime and Law

- Acquaintance rape
- Animal rights
- Assisted suicide
- Campus violence
- Capital punishment
- Civil rights
- Drinking age, legal
- Drug legalization
- Gun control
- Hate crimes
- Insanity defense
- Mandatory Minimum sentencing
- Patriot Act
- Police brutality
- Prisons and prisoners
- Roe vs. Wade

- Serial killers
- Sex crimes
- Sexual harassment
- Three Strikes Law

Drugs and Drug Abuse

- Alcohol
- Cocaine
- Doping in sports
- Drug testing
- Drunk driving
- Heroin
- Marijuana
- Nicotine

Education

- Attention deficit disorder
- Charter Schools
- College admission policies
- College athletes
- College tuition planning
- Distance education
- Diploma mills
- Education and funding
- Grade inflation
- Greek letter societies
- Hazing

- Home schooling
- Intelligence tests
- Learning disabilities
- Literacy in America
- Mascots (Illiniwek)
- No Child Left Behind
- Plagiarism
- Prayer in schools
- Sex education
- School vouchers
- Standardized tests

Environmental

- Acid rain
- Alternative fuel/hybrid vehicles
- Conservation
- Deforestation
- Endangered species
- Energy
- Global warming
- Greenhouse effect
- Landfills
- Marine pollution
- Nuclear energy
- Oil spills
- Pesticides
- Pollution

Need More Help? Ask a Librarian!

Website:
www.library.uiuc.edu/ugl

Screen Name:
askundergrad

Fall and Spring Hours:
Open Sunday 10am-
Close Friday 10pm
(24 hours)
Saturday 10am-10pm

Reference Hours:
Sun-Thurs: 10am-Midnight
Friday & Saturday:
10am-10pm

Phone:
Reference: 217.333.8589
Info Services: 217.333.3477



- Population control
- Radioactive waste disposal
- Recycling
- Smog
- Soil pollution
- Wildlife conservation

Family Issues

- Battered woman
- Child abuse
- Divorce rates
- Domestic abuse
- Family relationships
- Family values

Health

- Abortion
- AIDS
- Attention deficit disorder
- Alternative medicine
- Alzheimer's Disease
- Anorexia Nervosa
- Artificial insemination
- Autism
- Birth control
- Bulimia
- Cancer
- Depression
- Dietary supplements
- Drug abuse
- Dyslexia
- Exercise and fitness
- Fad diets
- Fast food
- Heart disease
- HIV infection
- In vitro fertilization
- Medicaid/Medicare reform
- Obesity
- Organic foods
- Prescription drugs
- Plastic surgery
- Sleep
- Smoking
- Stem cell research
- Teen pregnancy
- Vegetarianism

- Weight loss surgery
- ### **Media and Communications**

- Body image
- Censorship
- Children's programming and advertising
- Copyright Law
- Freedom of speech
- Materialism
- Media bias
- Media conglomerates / ownership
- Minorities in mass media
- Political correctness
- Portrayal of women
- Reality television
- Stereotypes
- Talk radio
- Television violence

Political Issues

- Affirmative Action
- Budget deficit
- Electoral College
- Election reform
- Emigration
- Genocide
- Illegal aliens
- Immigration
- Impeachment
- International relations
- Medicaid/Medicare reform
- Operation Enduring Iraqi Freedom
- Partisan politics
- Prescription drugs
- Social Security Reform
- Third parties
- Taxes

Psychology

- Child abuse
- Criminal psychology
- Depression
- Dreams
- Intelligence tests
- Learning disabilities
- Memory

- Physical attraction
 - Schizophrenia
- ### **Religion**

- Cults
- Freedom of religion
- Occultism
- Prayer in Schools

Social Issues

- Abortion
- Adoption
- Airline safety/security
- Affirmative Action programs
- AIDS
- Apartheid
- Birth control
- Child abuse
- Child rearing
- Discrimination in education
- Employee rights
- Gambling/online gaming
- Gang identity
- Gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender
- Gay parenting
- Gender discrimination
- Genetic screening
- Homelessness
- Identity theft
- Interracial marriage
- Poverty
- Race relations
- Reverse discrimination
- Suffrage
- Suicide
- Test biases
- Textbook biases
- Welfare

Terrorism

- Bioterrorism
- Homeland Security
- September 11

Women and Gender

- Abortion
- Birth control and Pregnancy
- Body image

- Cultural expectations and practices
- Discrimination
- Eating disorders
- Education
- Feminism
- Gay pride
- Female genital mutilation
- Health
- Marriage and Divorce
- Media portrayals
- Menstruation and Menopause
- Parenting
- Prostitution
- Queer issues (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender)
- Sex and Sexuality
- Sports
- Stereotypes
- Substance abuse
- Violence and Rape
- Work

Check out other How Do I... Guides in this series, **Start My Research**:

- **Developing a Topic**
- **Choosing a Topic**
- **Use Reference Sources**
- **Find Topic Ideas**