

Research Log

INSTRUCTIONS

Please note that this research log project is designed to help you *not* make your life a living hell. Really!

It is our intention that the research log will help you stay organized and allow you to reflect back upon the paths taken and resources consulted in your research so that you may better learn from your successes and mistakes. Additionally, since this is a pilot project, we would like to hear your feedback, both positive and negative, and suggestions for improving the usability of the research log.

Remember, that the use and completion of this *research log* is required as part of your final research portfolio, which will also include your final *bibliography* and *reflection paper*.

Here's how to fill out the Research Log. If you have questions please contact me at [rick.robison@sonoma.edu](mailto:rnick.robison@sonoma.edu) or 707-664-4196:

QUESTION/INFORMATION NEED:	Step 1: Clearly state your question or desired information. <i>Example: What is the demographic profile of the surrounding population that this firm serves?</i>
Where might I find this type of information?	Step 2: Consider where/who/how you might collect this information <i>Example: U.S. Census, RAND California db or consult with local Chamber of Commerce</i>
SEARCH STRATEGIES to try (circle successful strategies):	Note any useful words, concepts, organizations, etc. that you may want to use later.
Step 3: If using a database or an www search engine, <i>example</i> might be: Hispanics and Sonoma County. Also, you might write "Call Chamber of Commerce." It may not always be possible to clearly state this but do the best you can	Step 4: Use this both <i>before</i> and <i>during</i> your search to make note of related words or concepts as well as organizations and/or other contacts that you may want to use now or in the future.
Where and/or how did you find your answer?	Step 5: <i>Example: RAND California db at SSU or Firm's Manager Mr. Jones.</i> This is designed to help you understand where to go/or who to consult in the future as well.
Briefly note the answer found:	Step 6: Since there is limited space, use this at your discretion. For example, you may state, there are 79,511 hispanics/latinos (2000) in Sonoma County, or you may choose to record all of the sources information, <i>especially if you plan to use it in your final analysis & bibliography.</i> For example, there are 79,511 hispanics/latinos found in Census 2000 Summary File [California][online data file]/prepared by California Digital Library, Oakland, California: 2001. Retrieved on 10/1/04; using Counting California; <http://countingcalifornia.cdlib.org:80>