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## Research Reflections Rubric

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# Western Libraries Undergraduate Research Awards

## Research Reflections Rubric (40 points)

### What is your research project about and why is it important?

Categories	Developing (0-13 points)	Competent (14-27 points)	Exemplary (28-40 points)
<i>Did the applicant(s) sufficiently and concisely describe and summarize their research project?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fails to offer a coherent summary of their research project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides a readable summary of their research project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offers a clear and concise summary of their research project.</li> </ul>
<i>Did the applicant(s) explain the principal argument(s), methods, and contribution(s) of their research project?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not refer to their arguments/conclusions and methods.</li> <li>Neglects to mention the importance of their research project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hints at their arguments/conclusions and methods.</li> <li>Offers some insight into the importance of their research project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highlights and explains their arguments/conclusions and methods.</li> <li>Describes the importance of their research project.</li> </ul>

### How did you design your research question?

<i>Did the applicant(s) sufficiently describe the origins of their research project and the problem they are addressing (lived experiences, fascination, curiosity, interest, passion)?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoids altogether or vaguely discusses the origins of their research.</li> <li>Does not reference the problem they are addressing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>References the origins of their research but provides limited details.</li> <li>Does not fully elaborate upon the problem they are addressing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explains the origins of their research with specific examples.</li> <li>Outlines the problem they are addressing with clarity.</li> </ul>
<i>Did the applicant(s) describe the initial research they performed to develop their research question (abstracts, book reviews, websites, reference materials, etc.)?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ignores or vaguely covers the early stages of their research.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides an intelligible summary of their background research.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explains their methods of background research and offers specific examples.</li> </ul>

### How did you find library/archives services and resources for your research?

<i>Did the applicant(s) describe how their search strategy fits within their discipline?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not make any links between their search process and discipline.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Displays basic awareness of the relationship between their search process and discipline.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Makes clear connections between their search process and discipline.</li> </ul>
<i>Did the applicant(s) make use of the Western Libraries website (LibGuides, library catalogue, finding aids, databases, etc.)?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neglects to highlight the resources they used on our website.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies the resources they used on our website but does not fully explain how they were useful.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notes the specific resources they used on our website and how they were useful.</li> </ul>
<i>Did the applicant(s) describe their search terms and show an awareness of controlled vocabulary?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Omits to explain their search process.</li> <li>Ignores basic search features in catalogue and databases.</li> <li>Shows no awareness of LCSHs and/or controlled vocabulary of databases.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refers to but only partially reconstructs their search process.</li> <li>Shows awareness of basic search features in catalogue and databases.</li> <li>Demonstrates basic understanding of the LCSHs and/or controlled vocabulary of databases.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reconstructs their search process in detail.</li> <li>Shows awareness of advanced search features in catalogue and databases.</li> <li>Describes the LCSHs and/or controlled vocabulary of databases and how they influenced their search.</li> </ul>

### What library/archives services and resources did you use to perform your research?

<i>Did the applicant(s) make use of human resources (research consultation, reference help, etc.)?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not refer to any communication with library staff.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alludes to but does not fully describe their interactions with library staff.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>References specific conversations with library staff and how this influenced their research.</li> </ul>
<i>Did the applicant(s) make use of our collections (Research Collections, Scholarship@Western, Archives and Special Collections, and Indigenous Collection Highlights)?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Makes limited or no use of our collections.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses a significant number of materials from our collections.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draws extensively upon our collections.</li> </ul>