Scheduling Research for Writing

Writing a good research paper takes time and discipline. It is important to write a schedule based on the time allowed to produce a paper of the required length. Each research schedule will vary depending on the needs and obligations of the writer. The following is a checklist that can be followed in research scheduling (please know that dates can overlap):

**Planning**

- Read the primary text (if needed)
- Analyze the audience
- Choose the topic
- Decide what format to use for the paper (often determined by the professor)

**Searching**

- Make a working bibliography (list of sources for reference page)
- Find periodicals
- Locate Online Database
- Use reference books
- Investigate electronic sources
- Write a preliminary thesis (see UWC Thesis handout)
- Make a preliminary outline (see UWC Outline handout)
- Evaluate sources and take notes (use notecards; see UWC handout on note taking)

**Writing**

- Revise preliminary thesis
- Adapt preliminary outline
- Write the first draft
- Construct the works cited page (be wary of citation generators)
- Revise the first draft
- Evaluate second draft with Writing Center Consultant
- Compose the final draft