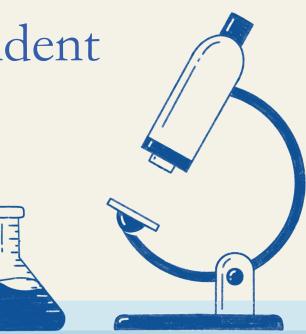


How to Begin Independent Research

Spacetime Archives





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Choosing The Topic	Are there any intriguing topics that you feel need more background knowledge in?
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Getting Started	You are now ready to get started!







What is Independent Research?



Introduction



Independent research, similar to an independent study, is a common form of education used to introduce students to research—with little to no supervision. The main difference between independent research and an independent study is that independent research should have the potential to gather new knowledge.

Choosing The Topic

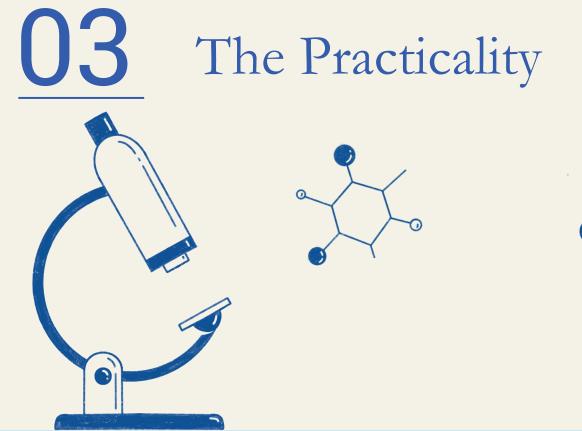
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Ask Yourself These Questions Before Beginning:



- Are there any intriguing topics that I feel need more background knowledge in?
 - Great! Write them down.
- Is my topic specific enough?
 - A good way to know this is by trying to dig out certain independent and dependent variables from your project. The more nuanced, the better!
- Is this topic genuinely interesting to me?
 - It is important to conduct research on a topic you love! If you are already planning on committing so much time to your research, then you should be enjoying it.





What Does it Mean for Research to Be *Practical?*

Consider the following before moving on with your research:

Resources

Do you have the proper supplies necessary to conduct this project? Ex: Technology, etc.

02

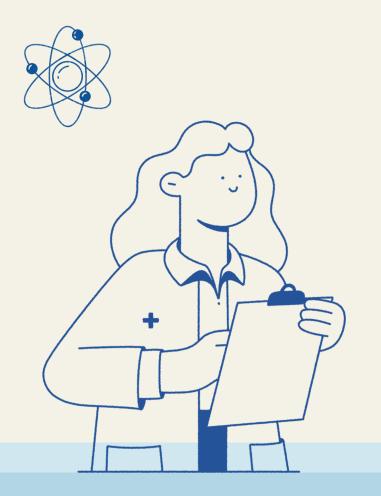
Time Commitment

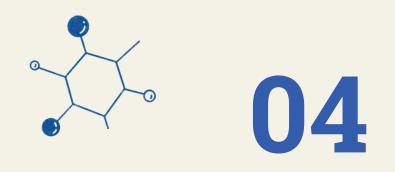
If you are a student, you are probably already burnt out from academics! Make sure to choose a topic that you are able to commit

03

Financial

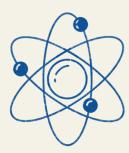
There are many research institutions that use expensive tools for their research. Do not compare yourself to them, use what is available to you!



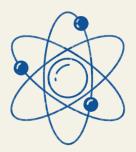


Other Factors to Consider

Some More Consideration



- Has your chosen research been conducted before?
 - It is crucial that you do not copy research from others, unless you are doing secondary research. So, make sure of this before you get started.
- How often will you be researching?
 - A good way to maintain balance is to make a schedule. Relative to almost everything in life, organization will benefit you exponentially. So, make a research schedule.
- Are you planning on publishing your research?
 - If you already have some competitions/submissions in mind, make sure to know their preferred format. The most common research format is APA.



Getting Started

You are finally ready to begin your independent research, good luck!



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