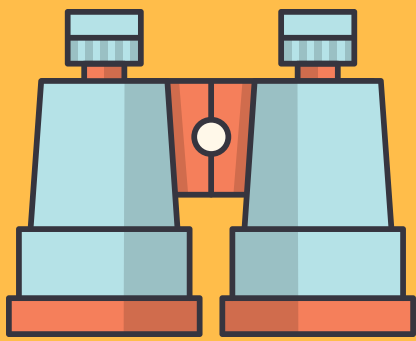


THE INFORMATION SEARCH PROCESS



Based on two decades of
empirical research by Carol
Kuhlthau



It's normal to feel anxiety
while you're doing research.

Research is a process that increases uncertainty before
decreasing it. You don't have all the answers in the
beginning - that's why you're doing research!

"At first I was excited about my topic, but now
I'm not so sure... I find searching confusing and I
can't seem to find any supporting research! I'm
not sure where to go from here."

- said every student ever, at some point

Be open to what you find and take time to reflect
on what it means.

Let the information you find guide you toward
refining your topic.

Feelings of uncertainty and apprehension often
give way to optimism.

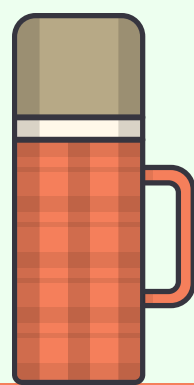
Don't be discouraged. The secret is to keep
searching.

Find the best database for your subject
area using the [A-Z list of databases](#)

After you've gathered some resources it's time
to develop a focus (thesis).

While a focus may be
formed in a sudden
moment of insight...

it is more likely to emerge gradually
as you construct your thoughts.
Associated feelings are increased
confidence and clarity!



There's help!

Visit the reference desk at your favourite Dalhousie Library for
help at any stage of the research process.

Make an appointment with your [Subject Librarian](#)
or visit their [Subject Guide](#) for resources.