

Assignment: Research Question

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Instructions:

Use *Wikipedia* to develop a **thoughtful and focused research question** on a topic of interest to you. To complete the assignment, **answer the 6 questions** below.

Click the blue "**Submit Assignment**" button, type or copy/paste your answers directly into the text box, then click Submit Assignment again.

1. Based on your academic or personal interests, what is a **general topic** you would like to research?
2. Why is this topic **meaningful** to you?
3. Search for your general topic on [Wikipedia](#) [↗]. What is the **URL** of the most useful *Wikipedia* page you found?
4. What is one **quote** from your *Wikipedia* page that provides new or interesting information on your topic?
5. What are **3 keywords or concepts** from your *Wikipedia* page that might be useful in your research?
6. Based on the background information you gained from *Wikipedia*, develop a **preliminary research question** on your topic. What is the research question you came up with?

One student's answer:

1. Green (natural burials)
2. This topic is meaningful to me because I am a mortician, and I am learning always submersed in so much new information about the funeral industry. Our industry is very exclusive, and I feel the general public knows very little about it. I want everyone to know all of their options.
3. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_burial [↗]
4. "When formaldehyde is used for embalming, it breaks down, and the chemicals released into the ground after burial and ensuing decomposition are inert. The problems with the use of formaldehyde and its constituent components in natural burial are the exposure of mortuary workers to it^[12] [↗] and the destruction of the decomposer microbes necessary for breakdown of the body in the soil."
5. (a)decomposition, (b) formaldehyde, (c) biodegradable
6. How is green (natural) burial better for the environment, and why aren't more people utilizing this form of disposition?