Key #1: Knowing your assignment

- What is the assignment?
  - How do you organize it?
- Are there specific requirements?
  - Page length, citation style, thesis
- What do you need?
  - Anything you can’t use?
Key #2: Narrowing your topic

Narrowing a topic
Keywords: picking search terms

- What’s a keyword?
- What’s the difference between a keyword and a subject?
- Synonyms
- Combine keywords to get different results
What keywords could you use for a search about college students and alcohol?

- http://www.polleverywhere.com/free_text_polls/MTQxMzQ0MDY4NQ
Key #4
Finding your sources

- Use the links to the library databases on Research Guide
- Don’t be afraid to use books
- Advance search on Google can be your friend
- Have the search engines send you the citation in APA format

- How do you tell if it’s good??
Where do I find these?

- History of the problem
- Current happenings of the problem
- Your feelings/analysis of the problem and why it is happening
- Are their agencies/services/legislation that are activating change
- How can society help in the change process
- How can community help in the change process
- How can you help in the change process
Getting your hands on the stuff

- Look for PDF or HTML links
  - If you have both options PDFs are better, because it’s easier to quote page numbers.

- No PDF or HTML full-text links? Use the FindIt button.

- Still no full-text? Request the article from another library. Be sure to make sure it will be useful, also be sure to check the page length of the article!
Key #5

Getting help when you need it

- Ask for help if you need it! Conversation is part of the academic process in college.
- Librarians and your professor are here to help.
  - In person (desk or office), email, phone, IM, Facebook