

Critical Inquiry by Dr. Deeren
APSU Writing Center Handout

Step 1: Identifying A Broad Topic

What is one broad topic and one claim/argument of the text?

Step 2: Focusing A Broad Topic into a Critical Line of Inquiry

focus on your own research topic. Record your work in the chart below.

What more do you want to know?

What do you already know?

What have you discussed in class?

What themes from the reading do you find interesting?

Step 3: State your search strategy using your ideas from Steps 1 and 2, to formulate a clear research purpose.

I am researching _____ (broad topic) because I want to find
out _____ (issue/question) to
_____ (application - so what?).