

University of Toronto Libraries Undergraduate Research Prize Evaluation Rubric

Application #: _____

Citation Style: _____

Research process	Developing (1 point per item)	Proficient (2 points per item)	Accomplished (3 points per item)
Search strategy and techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Search strategies may be very general, such as using only simple keyword searches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Search strategies may now be somewhat more sophisticated, using subject-specific terminology but the way those strategies shape the topic and further research may not be articulated in reflection essay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Search strategies will be thoroughly described, being highly sophisticated, well developed and clearly contributed to the shaping of the research topic, and using subject-specific terminology
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No description of responses to failure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roadblocks are acknowledged but not approached critically 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will explicitly acknowledge responds to dead-ends and gaps in research results
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses basic tools such as the library catalogue and search engines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies basic or general finding aids (e.g. research guides), but omits other appropriate aids and services in context (e.g. Special Collections, interlibrary loan, or journal databases) Modifies searches iteratively; identifies new keywords including synonyms, related terms, variant spellings; uses subject headings; follows footnotes & references 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Displays awareness of all potential finding aids appropriate to the inquiry, including library resources (e.g. Special Collections, interlibrary loan, or subject-specific databases) Evidence of advanced search techniques including modified searches and search limits; identifies key authors and works; follows footnotes & references iteratively; uses of flexible and creative vocabularies
Library and research services and supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library services and other supports not used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library services and resources, such as asking a librarian or consulting reference sources, may be used, but others that might be appropriate may not have been consulted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extensive use of library services, including consulting with reference librarians, subject specialists, as well as professors and peers

Choice and use of sources	Developing (1 point per item)	Proficient (2 points per item)	Accomplished (3 points per item)
Types and formats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sources cited tend to be predominantly of one type and/or format (e.g. secondary sources only, primary data obtained from secondary sources, or exclusive use of articles) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflects a wider range of types and formats of sources (e.g. primary and secondary sources, wide date range, applicable to the discipline) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sources display rich variety of types and format appropriate to the discipline
Depth and breadth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses references from familiar sources but lacks in its range of perspectives and coverage (e.g. sources are older than they should be, or all drawn from a narrow range of dates) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses a wider range of references from a variety of sources, disciplines, and perspectives, but may have gaps in coverage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses references from multiple perspectives, pursuing comprehensive coverage (e.g. date range, culturally, geographically, etc.)
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not identify criteria for evaluating sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria for evaluation of sources incomplete or unclear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articulates a well-constructed criteria for evaluating the authority and quality of sources
Bibliography	Developing (1 point per item)	Proficient (2 points per item)	Accomplished (3 points per item)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sources are not cited in a standard and consistent way. Numerous errors and/or omissions of citation elements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sources cited in standard format but contain errors or some missing elements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cites all materials correctly in a standard format as stated in the application

Quality of writing in reflective essay	Developing (1 point per item)	Proficient (2 points per item)	Accomplished (3 points per item)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poorly written; does not illustrate any reflection on the research process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing occasionally lacks clarity or emphasis on the research process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-written, and clearly articulates the research process

TOTAL SCORE: / 30

NOTES: