How to Research Infographic – Text Version

1) Determine a Topic
   - Find a topic that interests you and fits the guidelines of your assignment. You can find websites to help you find a topic on the Research Guide titled “Library Research.”

2) Find Background Info
   - Use subject encyclopedias to locate background information on your topic. You can find electronic encyclopedias on the library homepage and print encyclopedias in the library.

3) Form a Research Question
   - Formulate a question you want to ask about your topic. Narrow your focus by using the 5 Ws - who, what, when, where, and why.

4) Develop a Research Strategy
   - Pull out the most important words from your research question. You may also want to think of synonyms to those important words. This will help you when searching a database.

5) Find Resources
   - Use the library to find credible sources. The library catalog will help you find books, and Research Guides will help you find databases and websites.
   - Tip: Wikipedia is not a credible source.

6) Cite Sources
   - Be sure to cite all sources in order to avoid plagiarism. Any automatic citations you use should be double checked against the examples in the Research Guide titled "Citing Sources"