Library Research Assignment Steps and Flowchart

***Remember, no matter the database, the process is always the same***

* Assignment and Topic
* Refine your topic (narrow – or broaden the focus of your research as necessary).
* Know the types of resources required (books, journals, etc.).
* Choose or find useful terminology (use keywords and controlled vocabulary – subject terms). **WRITE THEM DOWN!**
* Database selection – If you are not certain of the best database for your topic or if you want to know if there are additional databases relevant to your research, ask a librarian – the goal is to be successful, not frustrated.
* Keep track of citation information (author, title, date, etc.) for your bibliography – e-mail, save, print it out, or write it down.
* Know the format required for your bibliography: APA, MLA, etc.
* Locate (and retrieve) material/resources of interest to you (online or in print).