**Activity 3: Researching Research in the Discipline**

**Purpose of this assignment:** The goal of this activity is to help you identify what "research" in the field means and how it is conducted.

**How does it fit within the entire project?** This activity will help you approach the research process recognizing the need to consider research as open-ended exploration and engagement with information and the importance of using various research methods, based on need, circumstance, and type of inquiry.

**Tasks required:** Complete the activity below.

**Deliverable:** Completed version of this handout uploaded to [LMS] by [deadline] (one per person).

**Estimated time:** [to determine based on the depth of the reflection, the number of source provided to the students, etc.]

**Group work or individual work?** Individual work [can be also used for group work].

**Notes to instructor:**

* This activity was modified from an activity originally developed by [Jane Hammons](https://library.osu.edu/people/hammons.73).
* Provide students with different articles that give students an illustration of the types of research that scholars in the field might undertake. Depending on the number of articles you select, students could discuss all of the articles, or each individual student or group could be assigned one article to review.

**Step-by-step:**

1. Write a short reflection describing your understanding of research. Consider the following questions:
   * What does it mean to do research?
   * What is the purpose of research [in field of the CURE]? Why do people research?
     + To gain knowledge?
     + To share knowledge?
     + To answer questions?
     + To solve problems?
   * What are the actions that someone takes when they are researching?
2. Look at the articles you were provided and answer the following questions for each publication:
   * What is the purpose of the research? What was the author hoping to do or find?
   * What actions did the authors take? What constituted their research process?
   * What specific research methods did the authors use? Why did they select that method?
3. What are the differences and similarities across publications?
4. Write a synthetic summary addressing the following questions:
   * Why do scholars research?
   * What are the different steps of the research process in [the field of the CURE]?
5. Review your answer to question 1. What is your understanding of research now? How does your previous view match with your answer to question 4? Did your view of the purpose and process of research change?