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| **Week**  **Five** | **Searching and Evaluating** |
| Goal(s) | Get started with your selected research topic by creating a research plan that will guide your research. |
| Overview | As you should already be aware, the information you present is only as good as the sources you choose to use and how you interpret them. You want to select the best sources. How do you decide what is true or reliable?  You will use the information you have gathered to further shape your research topic and create a research plan to guide your work in the remaining weeks of the quarter. |
| Objectives | * Develop a personal philosophy of knowledge to aid in selecting quality information * Analyze your topic in order to better understand it for research * Develop your initial Research Plan * Reflect on censorship and freedom of speech |
| Other Comments | The Research Plan is a key to success in the final project. From here on, the work you do will build from one week to the next. Keeping up with assignments is critical to completing this course with a successful final project and a grade to match. |
| Course Outcomes Addressed | * Develop and research a topic of global significance * Recognize author’s arguments and the political, social, and economic motivations behind their work * Demonstrate the ability to locate, interpret and cite the relevant and appropriate information resources on a topic * Apply the information research process to your research topic |

#### **Week Five Assignments:**

* Searching and Evaluating: Read an essay on the theories of knowledge. Explore the origins of a word. Write an essay on your own personal philosophy of knowledge.
* Selecting Information Sources: Using what you have learned from reading about information cycles and how they relate to the format and location of a publication, begin to identify what each kind of information source will contribute to your research. Apply the selection criteria for quality information that we established in Week 2.
* Research Plan: Develop a plan for research that serves as a starting point for exploring research tools using keywords, subjects, classification systems, and other information tools. This assignment brings together all of the work we have done over the past four weeks and lays out the structure of your final project, the Pathfinder.
* Class discussion on censorship and freedom of speech.
* Weekly Reflection: Reflect on the course content. Reflect on the application of the course content to your life. Review how you have applied your time management skills during the week.