

Scholarship is like a Conversation

Scholarly and professional research is a practice in which ideas are formed, debated, evaluated, and shared over time. Scholars and experts understand that an issue may involve different perspectives, like an ongoing conversation in which speakers exchange views and ideas.

QUESTION

Question what you find. As in any conversation, some voices carry more influence or privilege than others, and some speakers are more credible than others, offering evidence and support for their contributions.

CONVERSATION

Ask questions and find answers by researching and reading. You can find information in books, articles, and media, or from peers or professors. Scholarship isn't about memorizing for a grade. When you engage in research, you're not just consuming facts and figures; you're learning *how* to learn, which is a skill you'll use beyond college.

CONTRIBUTION

Use what you learn to find answers or identify new questions. Piece information together. What you learn in one class can be useful in another. In scholarly research, as in conversation, it's important to know what you're talking about. If you want others to **believe** you, provide credible evidence.

COMMUNICATION

Share what you learn. Discuss, ask questions, argue, write, create. By sharing your discoveries, you may teach someone else as you continue the conversation.