

STEP NUMBER TWO: CHOOSE A TOPIC



College of the
Siskiyous
WRITING LAB

INTRODUCTION: The second step is to choose a topic for your paper. Here are some tips to help you.

Interest comes first

- Pick a topic you are interested in and would like to learn about. If your interest is sparked, this can keep the paper from becoming lifeless.
- The topic should be focused on the course for which it is written. In other words, a history paper will have a different focus than a sociology paper.

Places to find interesting subjects:

Newspapers, Internet, instructors, magazines, conversations, textbooks, editorials, reference books, TV or radio news, the COS Writing Lab, and so forth.

Select your topic early.

- Write down a deadline date and have your topic chosen by that date. _____
- Choosing a topic early will help to ensure that you have time to gather reference material.