# Today's topic:

Final projects: Information and topic planning

#### Background:

Final project information handout

## 0. Key points today

- About the final project
- Group brainstorming: Possible directions
- Resources for finding articles
- Workshop time: Look for articles, refine your topic
  - Work on your own
  - Confer with me
  - Brainstorm/work with classmates

## 1. Final project information

- How the project works
  - Final project info & resources webpage Available there:
    - Final project information handout
    - Grading criteria

### 2. Brainstorming: Some possible topics

#### **Group discussion**

What are some possible topics for a final project?

- Every group member should take a turn contributing a topic idea to the group discussion
- Each group will be asked to report at least three topic ideas to the class

### 3. Resources for finding articles

 What methods have you used for finding sources for projects?

#### 3. Resources for finding articles

- Some useful resources see this <u>webpage</u>
  - Google Scholar (link through UNC Libraries!)
  - Other article databases JSTOR, PsycInfo, etc.

### 3. Resources for finding articles

- Some things to watch out for
  - What is the quality of the journal?
    - Check for bad editing
  - What is the publication date?
    - Older articles are okay if chosen for a reason
- Some resource types to avoid in general (or at least check with me before using)
  - PhD dissertations and MA theses
    - They are long and not always well edited
  - Meta-analyses or summaries of research

### 4. Workshop time

- How to make use of this time:
  - Work on your own
  - Confer with me
  - Brainstorm or work together with classmates

### 5. Upcoming

- Topic for Thursday: Review and summary of the research results we've seen so far
- Think about:
  - Do you have questions about any of the articles?
  - What are some implications for reading education?