

## Conceptualizing the Paper

Use the example below to organize your thoughts and the information you find as you develop your paper. **Please note: This is intended to supplement the text, not replace it! (Refer to Figure 1.1. of the text for a graphic overview of the research process.)**

**Ask a question:** Identify an issue of concern or personal curiosity relating to your profession.

Example: *Should college athletes be paid to play?*

**Identify two bodies of knowledge:** Which two disciplines will be used to help answer the question?

Example: *History and Sociology*

**Conduct a literature review:** What research has been done to help answer this question?

Hint #1: **Make notes in the center column (see below) as resources are identified and read.**

Hint #2: **Compile an annotated bibliography as you find information as this will help you keep your sources organized and references correct.**

History	All Students: Notes/Observations	Sociology
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Compare/Contrast</i></li> <li>• <i>Ethical Considerations</i></li> <li>• <i>Social/Professional Responsibilities</i></li> <li>• <i>Diversity Considerations</i></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CJ Students:</b> In addition to above, must also address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Compare/contrast of historical and contemporary police functions, issues, and response to crime</i></li> </ul>	
Theories and/or concepts (taken from research)	Notes made from resources.  <b>Each of the bullet points above must be addressed in the paper.</b>	Theories and/or concepts (taken from research)

**Bringing It Together:** Discuss the question extensively using information from the middle column above.

**Conclusion:** End the discussion with a conclusion—answer the question! Please note, there are two parts to the conclusion:

- Part #1: **Answer your question and discuss how (if) your personal views have changed based on what you've learned.**
- Part #2: **Discuss how you plan to build on this knowledge going forward.**