**Abstract** – An abstract summarizes, usually in one paragraph of 300 words or less, the major aspects of the entire paper in a prescribed sequence that includes: 1) the overall purpose of the study and the research problem(s) you investigated; 2) the basic design of the study; 3) major findings or trends found as a result of your analysis; and, 4) a brief summary of your interpretations and conclusions. (https://libguides.usc.edu/writingguide/abstract).

**Academic conference** – an event for researchers to present and discuss their recent work. It is often a part of an academic professional association’s annual meeting. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academic_conference).

**Article database** – searchable collection of multiple academic journals or other media that are usually used to find relevant existing research (secondary sources) on a topic. Some databases, like JSTOR, search across multiple disciplines, whereas some, like PubMed, are specific to certain fields. Online databases accessible through the UCLA Library are available at: https://guides.library.ucla.edu/start/articles.

**Case study** - the collection and presentation of detailed information about a particular participant or small group, frequently including data derived from the subjects themselves (https://libguides.usc.edu/writingguide/researchglossary).

**Citation manager** – citation programs that allow you to collect, organize, and retrieve citation information from books, articles and websites and assist in inserting properly formatted footnotes or citations and bibliographies into a research paper (https://guides.library.ucla.edu/citation-managers).

**Citation style** – a set of rules on how to cite sources in academic writing. The three most common types include MLA, APA, and Chicago. (https://guides.library.ucla.edu/start/citing).

**Contract course** – supervised individual research or investigation under guidance of faculty member, with a culminating paper or project (https://www.registrar.ucla.edu/Registration-Classes/Enrollment-Policies/Enrollment-Restrictions/Contract-Courses).

**CV (Curriculum Vitae)** – A curriculum vitae, also called a vita or CV, is similar to a résumé and provides key information about your skills, education, and experience to a potential employer. A CV is typically used to apply for academic and research positions and for some graduate programs. It is longer than a résumé and displays academic credentials and accomplishments in greater detail (https://grad.ucla.edu/asis/agep/advcv.pdf).

**Double-blind review** – a form of peer-review when both the reviewer and author identities are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa, throughout the review process.
Faculty-initiated project - working on a faculty-initiated project gives you the chance to help a faculty member on a research project. A great resource for finding faculty-initiated projects is the Undergraduate Research Portal. In addition, you could ask your professors and TAs about available research opportunities (http://hass.ugresearch.ucla.edu/getting-started/project/).

Graduate record exam - The Graduate Record Examination, or GRE, is an important step in the graduate school or business school application process. The GRE is a multiple-choice, computer-based, standardized exam that is often required for admission to graduate programs and graduate business programs (MBA) globally (https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/about).

Honors collegium - The Honors Collegium is a series of courses with an interdisciplinary emphasis designed for students enrolled in College Honors, but not necessarily limited to students in College Honors. It encourages animated discussion among students, as well as between students and professors and seeks to promote scholarly exchange across the major disciplines at UCLA. (https://catalog.registrar.ucla.edu/ucla-catalog19-20-813.html).

Interdisciplinary research - Interdisciplinary research is a mode of research by teams or individuals that integrates information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts, and/or theories from two or more disciplines or bodies of specialized knowledge to advance fundamental understanding or to solve problems whose solutions are beyond the scope of a single discipline or area of research practice. (https://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/additional_resources/interdisciplinary_research/definition.jsp).

Literature review – A literature review discusses published information in a particular subject area, and sometimes information in a particular subject area within a certain time period. It can be just a simple summary of the sources, but it usually has an organizational pattern and combines both summary and synthesis (https://wp.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/Writing-the-Literature-Review.pdfucla library).

Methodology - Research methodology is the specific procedures or techniques used to identify, select, process, and analyze information about a topic. In a research paper, the methodology section allows the reader to critically evaluate a study’s overall validity and reliability. It answers two main questions: How was the data collected or generated? How was it analyzed? (https://libguides.wits.ac.za/c.php?g=693518&p=4914913).

Oral presentation – a short talk on one’s research (or that of a research team), most often for the purposes of sharing findings and receiving feedback from peers and colleagues during an academic conference or symposium (https://guides.library.ucla.edu/c.php?g=180334&p=1188045#s-lg-box-3594142).

Poster presentation – presentation through the use of a poster showing a visual display of your research project and combines text and graphics to make a visually pleasing presentation. Typically, a professional poster involves showing your work to numerous researchers at a conference or seminar. (https://guides.library.ucla.edu/posters).
**Primary sources** – immediate, first-hand accounts of a topic, from people who had a direct connection with it (https://umb.libguides.com/PrimarySources/secondary).

**Professional association** – a body of persons engaged in the same profession, they may maintain professional standards and ethics, award and reward work within the profession, coordinate the collection of data or maintain data sources, organize conferences and events, promote professional development, represent the profession in discussions with other bodies, some may oversee certifications that control entry into the profession (https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/technology-and-learning/what-do-higher-ed-professional-associations-do).

**Prospectus or Project Proposal** – a document describing the major features and feasibility of a proposed literary work, research or creative project, business venture, etc., in enough detail so that prospective mentors, advisors, sponsors, investors, or participants may evaluate it. In academics, a prospectus may be presented prior to embarking on the research for a thesis or dissertation (https://wp.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/Writing-Research-Proposals.pdf).

**Qualitative research** – Qualitative research is multimethod in focus, involving an interpretive, naturalistic approach to its subject matter. This means that qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of, or interpret, phenomena in terms of the meanings people bring to them (https://www.simplypsychology.org/qualitative-quantitative.html).

**Quantitative research** – research that gathers numerical data and generalizing it across groups of people or to explain a particular phenomenon (https://libguides.usc.edu/writingguide/quantitative).

**Research poster** – an organized, visual display of your research project. Typically, you present your poster in a poster session at a conference or seminar. Conference or seminar attendees will walk by your poster, study its contents, and ask you questions. You should be prepared to answer questions and to explain your project one-on-one frequently throughout the poster session (https://www.library.ucla.edu/poster-guidelines).

**Secondary sources** – sources that were created later by someone who did not experience first-hand or participate in the events or conditions you’re researching. A secondary source interprets and analyzes primary sources. (https://guides.library.harvard.edu/HistSciInfo/secondary).

**Student-initiated project** - working on a student-initiated project gives you the chance to pursue a project of your own design under the guidance of a faculty mentor. To find a faculty mentor, you might ask professors with whom you have taken courses in your area of interest (http://hass.ugresearch.ucla.edu/getting-started/project/).

**Symposium** - Symposium is an academic event, where the participants - representatives of academic or scientific world, present their achievements or reflections on a particular subject. The symposium can be easily described as a small conference or an academic gathering of experts to debate over new developments and discoveries in the field (https://armacad.info/events/symposium).

**Synthesis matrix** – a synthesis matrix is a table that can be used to organize research. When completed, it provides a visual representation of main ideas found in the literature and also shows where there is overlap in ideas between authors. A completed matrix will help to integrate all of the different resources.
together, which will facilitate the synthesis of information on a specific topic and writing a literature review (https://writingcenter.ashford.edu/synthesis-matrix).

**Tertiary sources** – publications that summarize and digest the information in primary and secondary sources to provide background on a topic, idea, or event (http://guides.library.cornell.edu/sources/tertiary).


**UCLA WI+RE group** - WI+RE is a learner-led community at UCLA focused on helping everyone succeed in their writing and research projects. The WI+RE team leverages a learner-centered design toolkit to create and continually improve open online learning modules. (https://uclalibrary.github.io/research-tips/about/).

What other terms would YOU like to see in the glossary?

Please email your suggestions to urhass@college.ucla.edu