

GENESIS Level 3 Assignment: The due date is Friday, September 18. **Both tasks must be completed.** If you have any questions or in need of clarification for any aspect of this assignment, please send an email to maherd@sjbdhs.org.

OBJECTIVE: One of the goals of the GENESIS Research Program for the 2026-27 school year is for students to focus as equally on the research process (steps taken) as they do on the research product (paper/presentation). This assignment is purposefully designed to address the scope of the study you will conduct and the level of planning needed to ensure that it generates substantive results. Additionally, it is an opportunity to reflect on your project from Level 2 and to start thinking about your project for Level 3.

TASK 1: Read the following article: [“Common Pitfalls in the Research Process”](#) (Schreffler & Heuckler, 2023). While some of the topics discussed are not applicable to your GENESIS project, the information is, nonetheless, valuable as you will most likely conduct research again at some point as part of your academic or professional pursuits. Evaluate the source in a **well-developed essay** using the following format:

- **Paragraph 1:** Summarize the components of the research process. Explain the importance of each individual aspect to the study as a whole. Be sure to provide support by referencing specific text from the source.

GUIDING QUESTION: What steps must be taken in order to conduct a valid research study?

- **Paragraph 2:** Analyze one specific pitfall identified for each the following phases of research: *planning, data collection and analysis, writing (total of three)*. Explain the consequences the pitfall can have on the overall research study. Include strategies that can be used to mitigate these problems.

GUIDING QUESTION: How can a research study be compromised by inattentiveness during the planning process?

- **Paragraph 3:** Synthesize the information from the source by applying it to your Level 2 research. Identify at least two specific issues that you encountered during your study that are examples of the pitfalls identified in paragraph 2. Be sure to include ways to proactively address these issues for your Level 3 paper.

GUIDING QUESTION: How can you put in safeguards to avoid the types of problems that crop up during the research process?

TASK 2: It is essential that a research study is grounded in the existing scholarly conversation. This is a daunting task for students who become overwhelmed by the abundance of studies for a topic and are unsure which ones to include to situate their own investigation. Read the following article: [“Reviewing the literature: choosing a review design”](#) (Noble & Smith, 2018). While it is specifically geared towards medical research, it is a useful resource to help you take a measured approach when reviewing sources for your project. Choose **three** different types of review identified in the article.

Compose a **separate, well-developed paragraph for each** which provides the following:

- a summary of the review type (What is the focus of the approach?)
- an analysis of the review type (How does the approach achieve the stated focus?)
- a synthesis of the review type (How can the approach be specifically applied to a topic that you are considering for your level 3 study?)

In addition to these written tasks, be prepared to discuss your responses with your faculty advisor during your initial meeting in September.