I need to write a research paper. How do I begin?

Step 1: Plan

✓ Understand the assignment requirements.
✓ Choose a topic
✓ Create an outline
✓ Decide how much information you need
✓ Decide what type of information you need
✓ Begin thinking about where you will look for information

Step 2: Find

✓ Find information about your topic
✓ Focus your topic, if needed

Step 3: Compile

✓ Take good notes as you read the information
✓ Create bibliographic citations as you take notes
✓ Organize your notes according to your outline
✓ Find additional information, if needed

Step 4: Write

✓ Include bibliographic citations
✓ Make connections between your information sources
✓ Write a first draft, set it aside a day, and then go back and make corrections
✓ Proofread your paper carefully before turning it in