

How *Disciplined* Was Foucault's Research Process?

A Proposed Method of Research Based on Philosophical and Critical
Models

OR

How the Humanities can Help Students Understand Research

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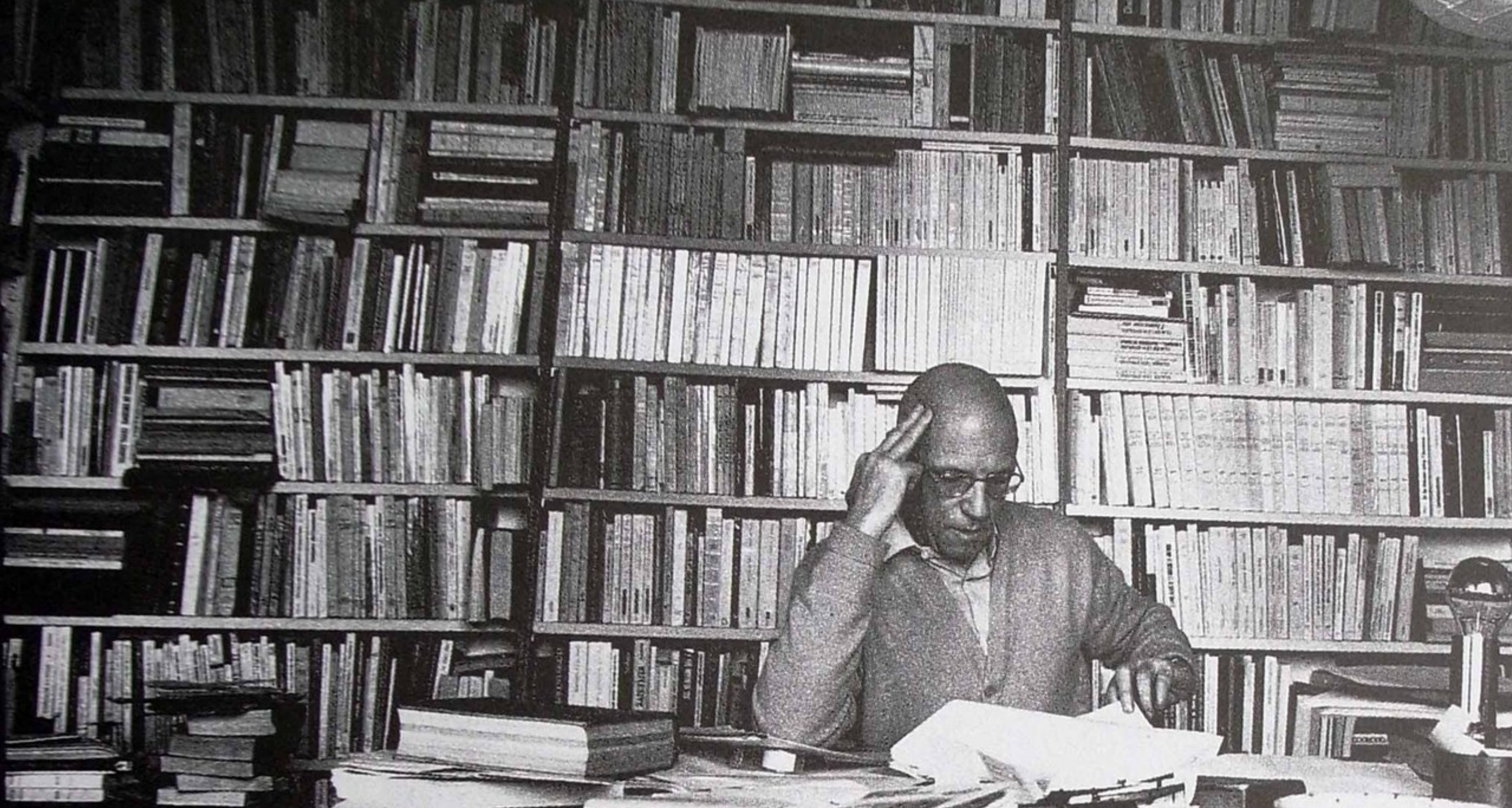


Image credit: <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/lsereviewofbooks/2012/04/23/book-review-michel-foucault-his-thought-his-character-by-pau>



Don't worry, this talk is not
really about this guy

“...Philosophy is merely the attempt to answer such ultimate questions, not carelessly and dogmatically, as we do in ordinary life and even in the sciences, but critically, After exploring all that makes such questions puzzling, and after realizing all the vagueness and confusion that underlie our ordinary ideas.”

Bertrand Russell, *The Problems of Philosophy*

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Ontology

Cultural transmission

Epistemology

Death of the Author?

What *is* an Author?

Deconstruction

Post-Colonial

Subaltern

Invention of Tradition

Feminism

Orientalism

Structuralism

Materialism

Formalism

New-Formalism

Historicism

New-
Historicism

A lot of -isms

“imagined communities”

Rigor in thought

“Research as Inquiry”

“Scholarship as Conversation”

Scholarship as Discourse

Aim: to give students the tools to ask better questions and to problematize set constructions in order to find more interesting avenues of research regardless of discipline.

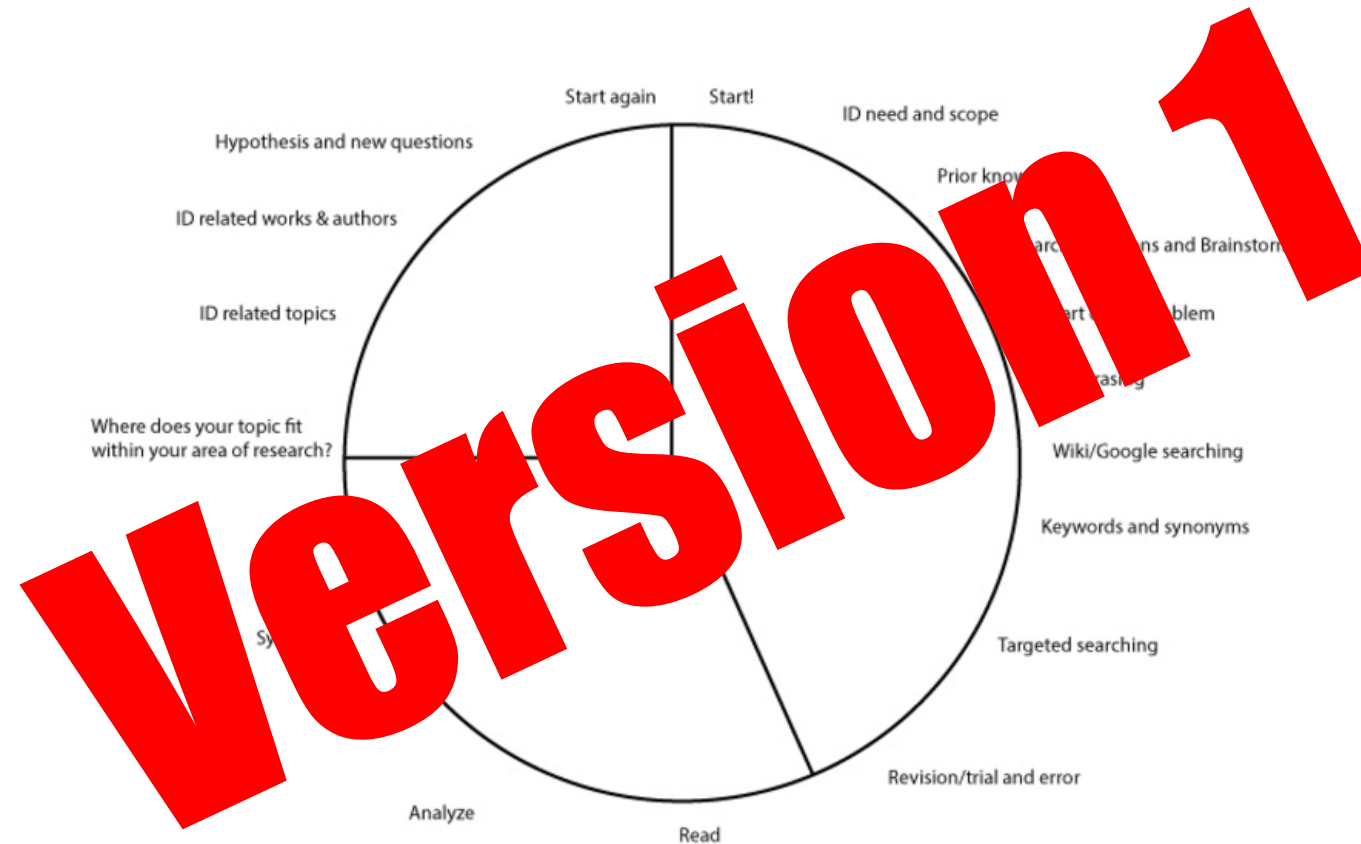
The Critical Research Process

(2016) This project will investigate the effectiveness of teaching the ACRL Framework for Higher Education frames in the context of Critical Theory and as a variant model of the standard Research Cycle and of Kuhlthau's information seeking processes ([Kuhlthau, 1991](#)).



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What it can look like:

- Active learning sessions based around discussion
- Encouraging students to dig into ideas
- Really focus on the lineage of ideas and the nature of knowledge

What it can look like:

- Feminist information literacy
- Adjusting one's cultural lens to view topics (esp. seemingly binary ones) outside experience
- Identifying power structures within a research topic
- Investigating the assumptions and culture surrounding a topic

Thank you

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