Tricky stuff
Even during the writing process you may need to make use of research tools and resources. Some are more obvious than others, but making sure you understand the options is key. There are three main facets to this: 1) knowing how to get help, 2) knowing the core resources in your subject as well as the “cross-cutting” resources that provide unique functions, and 3) managing and organizing your information effectively and efficiently.

Get the help you need:

YOUR SUBJECT LIBRARIAN
• Every discipline has a subject librarian who is focused on helping you find and use research materials. Find out who your librarian is and get to know them.
  → http://library.nyu.edu/research

YOUR SUBJECT GUIDE
• Every subject librarian has prepared an online guide focused on helping you find and use research materials in your subject.
  → http://library.nyu.edu/research/subjects

HELP WHEN AND WHERE YOU NEED IT
• The library maintains general help through physical desks, email, IM, and even text message. Don’t hesitate to ask when you need help.
  → http://library.nyu.edu/ask

GRAD-STUDENT-SPECIFIC INFORMATION
• Looking for spaces to work? Need to know policies about your library account? The graduate student services homepage links you to key information.
  → http://library.nyu.edu/grads

Resources you should know about:

THE CORE RESEARCH DATABASES IN YOUR SUBJECT AREA
• Most databases are based on subject boundaries; if you aren’t sure if you are using the right place, talk to your subject librarian immediately!
  → http://arch.library.nyu.edu

WORLDCAT LIBRARY CATALOG
• WorldCat searches libraries all over the world, letting you know what is available at NYU and beyond. Your research base should be the world’s collection; combine WorldCat and our Interlibrary Loan services and ensure that you are using everything you can.
  → http://www.worldcat.org
GOOGLE SCHOLAR
- Google’s scholarly side can be useful as a supplement to library tools. Scholar looks at a large amount of citations (though they’re not saying how many or which ones!), but it’s super easy and – if you set your scholar preferences – can be integrated with our holdings and citation management programs.
  → http://scholar.google.com

DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS
- Who else has written a dissertation on a topic close to your own? What does a finished dissertation look like in terms of format and approach? Who else has had your advisor? Dissertation Abstracts can tell you.
  → http://arch.library.nyu.edu/databases/proxy/NYU00729

DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS IN PROGRESS
- Who else is planning or in the midst of writing a dissertation on a topic close to your own? This database can tell you that. It also lets you input your own topic; claim your subject territory!
  → http://www.phddata.org

WEB OF SCIENCE AND SCOPUS
- These unique tools let you see the works cited by an author, and also who in turn cited that author, in essence letting you track the evolution of a scholar or idea backwards and forwards in time. Fill in holes in your literature list, refine your understanding, and experience those “Eureka” moments.
  → http://arch.library.nyu.edu/

Tools you should be using:

CITATION MANAGEMENT
- Organize everything you do using a citation management tool, like RefWorks, that lets you export, store, and organize all the literature you use, and processes your work and bibliographical entries, keeping your citations correctly correlated.
  → http://library.nyu.edu/tools/

Other Considerations:

- Join MaRLI – the Manhattan Research Library Initiative – to get borrowing privileges at Columbia and NYPL Research Libraries. This program is for Faculty and Doctoral students only.
  → http://marli.libguides.com/welcome

- Bone up on Human Subjects if you are involved in primary research.
  → http://www.nyu.edu/ucaihs/about/

- You can set up services to alert you whenever there is new content in a favored journal or database. See our “alerting services” guide.
  → http://library.nyu.edu/research/subjects/general/alerting/

- Stay up to date with news and updates from the library by joining Liblink, our information listserv.
  → http://library.nyu.edu/services/liblink.html