<u>**Feeder 1.1: Preliminary Research Worksheet**</u>

Directions: Please complete the following worksheet using complete sentences. In your final draft, you can include the questions or simply provide clearly numbered/labeled answers to each question. There are seven questions total; don't overlook the second page of this document. As always, remember to refer to the specific instructions and grading rubric in the Unit 1 Assignment Prompt (Sakai>Resources>Unit 1).

Note: You do NOT need to add a complete bibliography at the end of your submission for all sources you list in this worksheet. However, the questions that request bibliographic citations for secondary sources will be graded (in part) based on your use of complete and accurate citations within your response to those particular questions.

1. In class, you chose potential topics for your work in this unit. Narrow your selection down to one specific topic related to the medical sciences. Name the specific topic you've chosen and provide a brief bulleted list explaining what you find interesting about this topic. Briefly add also any concerns (if any) you have about reporting on this topic.

2. Now that you've chosen a single topic, do a Google web search on your topic. Read the first five articles/websites/sources that you find, and write a 2-4 sentence summary <u>of each one</u>. (Examples of specific topics might be "caramel color in soda," "local food products used at Rise Donuts Carrboro," etc., NOT something as broad as "breast cancer in young women.") Your summary of each source should answer the following questions:

   a. What type of source is this? Scholarly, popular, hybrid?
   b. What is the genre? Website? Blog post? Journal article? Book chapter?
   c. What is the author(s)'s main argument and/or point?
   d. Does this source seem "legitimate" to <u>you</u>? Why would <u>you</u> choose to accept or reject the credibility of this source?
   e. Why might <u>readers</u> choose to accept this source as "fact"? Why not?

3. Revise your Google search by selecting the "News" button. Describe what seems to be the latest news, discoveries, findings, etc. about your topic in one solid paragraph. (A solid paragraph is a minimum of five sentences.)

4. Go to the library website homepage (http://library.unc.edu/) and click on the Google Scholar button. (Do NOT just go straight to Google Scholar; you need to first log into the UNC Libraries.) Search for your topic. (Note: You may have to log in with your ONYEN and password.) Click through the first few pages of results. What seems to be the most heavily cited sources on your topic? Adjust the timeline on the left so that your search limits the articles from 2016 to 2022. Quickly peruse some of these articles. What journals seem to be publishing about this topic? What seems to be the latest findings? What subtopics/areas are scientists, doctors, health practitioners, etc. studying most? What types of sources are you finding (such as recently published books, articles, responses to other people's articles, etc.)? What ethical problems seem to arise when talking about this topic? What is particularly controversial about it? Respond in 1-2 paragraphs, addressing most/all of the issues listed in this question.

5. You've completed broad preliminary research on your topic. Hopefully, that has helped you narrow your focus even more. Now write a short paragraph describing your more specific topic and provide CSE-style (8th edition, name-year format) bibliographic citations for two scholarly, peer-reviewed journal articles that discuss this topic. Both of these should have been published no earlier than 2016. Ideally, one of these will be an experimental study (or maybe an observational study) that serves as the focus of your work moving forward. (Remember, the ultimate goal here is to learn about your topic and eventually—in your Unit Project—write a popular health article reporting on a single, recent study.)

Now, let's think about how we might explain this information to different audiences:

6. If you were to talk about this topic with your roommate or a close friend, what would you say? Write a short sample paragraph of what you would say to this person.

7. If you were to write about this topic in an article for *Science Daily* (http://www.sciencedaily.com/), how would you explain it? (Note: This necessitates that you look at what *Science Daily* is, see who the audience is, see what kinds of articles and materials they are publishing, etc.). Write a short sample paragraph. (Hint: This will be more formal than your response to the preceding question.)