Research as Inquiry

Scholars have shown how a woman’s gender can affect many aspects of her life, including travel, but have not focused specifically on thru-hiking. In order to explore instances of sexism on the trail, which can range from condescending comments to sexual harassment, this paper examines the writings of women who have thru-hiked.

For this research paper, I will mainly focus on scholarly articles pertaining to the opinions on medicalization and in print advertisements for medications to treat ADHD and MDD. I will also establish a baseline for the stigmas of ADHD and MDD by means of television advertisements and survey results. I will then compare and contrast how the stigmas surrounding ADHD and MDD affect public opinion of their medicalization.

Research as Strategic Exploration

What is the most important lesson you learned about research in this unit? What kinds of strategies will you employ in the future and what will you avoid?

“I learned that keeping an open mind is VITAL to research. I have to be willing to change directions based on evidence that I may not have expected.”

“I learned that research questions are bound to change as your research takes you down new paths.”

“Be open-minded and try to accept new possibilities, unexpected changes, and mind-boggling questions.”

Evolution of student research questions / topics

How women experience the trail differently due to their gender and how they use their writing to address these issues. (from The American Road course)