ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS TO DETERMINE YOUR RESEARCH NEEDS:

What type of assignment has my professor assigned? A book review, research paper, or presentation may require different kinds of resources to complete your research.

Does my professor specify a number or type of resource? Sometimes a professor will want you to use specific types of resources (monographs, websites, peer reviewed articles etc.) or stick to a certain number. Be sure to meet your professor's requirements!

How current do my sources have to be? Your professor may outline a specific time period from which your sources can come or your subject area (like science) may require that you only use the most current information available.

What is the focus of the assignment? Ask yourself what the professor wants from your assignment. Are you supposed to take a stance, make an argument, or address a controversial subject?