Discussion/Freewrite:
What is the most difficult part of writing for you? What do you hope to learn more about as a writer?

I. Reading and Evaluating sources
   o Effective reading is related to effective writing

   A. Evaluating sources
      1. Scholarly sources are:
         o peer reviewed
         o focus on furthering knowledge rather than making a profit
         o have strict research standards
         o rarely have an overt political agenda
      2. Types of sources
         o Peer-review journals
         o Edited books
         o “Expert” books for professional audience
         o Books for layperson – wider audience
         o Magazines
         o internet

   B. Some strategies for effective reading
      1. prereading
      2. Understand your purpose in reading
      3. annotate as you read – be an active reader
      4. expect to read more than once
      5. discuss what you are reading

II. Academic writing (Social Sciences)
   A. Style is not just about references…
      o Clarity is important! Present ideas in an orderly, succinct manner.
      o Avoid jargon, wordiness, redundancy
      o Avoid sexist or pejorative language
      o Vary sentence length
      o Be precise: avoid informal language and slang
      o Avoid editorial "we", e.g., "researchers tend to classify data in this way..." is better than
        "we tend to classify data in this way...
      o Ensure that verb tense is consistent and that subject agrees with verb

   B. APA Style (used except where in conflict with University format requirements)
      o Basic formatting
      o Citing references in text
      o Reference page
      o Some differences for theses

III. Plagiarism and how to avoid it
Plagiarism = Form of cheating and violation of professional ethics, whether intentional or not…