

Parts of Persuasive Research Paper Proposal – Essay #2
DUE TUESDAY, MARCH 30 at 11:59PM

A Research Proposal is a short description of your chosen topic. It is a document that gets you thinking about your existing and prior knowledge about your topic. NO RESEARCH is required for this assignment and you do not have to identify your sources, yet, but you do need to attempt to predict what sources you might try to find during your research. If you are torn between ideas, include your confusion as part of your proposal.

Directions: Using the same format and organizing structure you see below, write a paragraph response for each letter listed. The final length should be about 2-3 pages (approx. 500-700 words all together), double-spaced, MLA format.

This assignment will count as your Essay #2 Assignment worth 15% of your overall course grade.

I. Introduction

- A. The significance of your topic (Why are you writing about this topic, why is it a worthy topic for investigation within this course?)
- B. Your conception and definition of your topic (How do you understand your topic, how are you thinking about it, and how do you define your terms?)
- C. The relation of this topic to your intellectual development (What will you learn from writing about this topic?)

II. Background/History

- A. The way you are entering the ongoing intellectual (and perhaps emotional) conversations surrounding your topic. What are some of the arguments being made now and how are you joining the conversation with your paper?
- B. Expand. Provide the history/background of your topic. What do you already know about it and what do you feel still needs to be addressed or what questions need to be answered?

III. Research Methods

- A. What are your research methods and what critical primary/secondary sources do you plan to use within your paper? How are you conducting research – at the library, web, through interviews, etc? (*warning: interviews ARE NOT appropriate for every topic.*)
- B. What is your response to the critical questions you have concerning your topic? (This could be your thesis statement)