

AP Research: Inquiry Proposal Form – Instructions

Draft Due Thursday, October 12, 2017

Final Submission Due Friday, October 13, 2017

1. Research Question (with associated project goals).

Narrow your question as much as possible. Explicitly reference terms used to categorize the data for collection and analysis (really helps narrow your research question). Please format as shown below.

What is the meaning of life? Can be more than 1 sentence but not more than 3. Bold font.

Then list three goals for your research (use format below). Read the prompt for each goal carefully before responding. Format as bullet points.

- **Goal #1** – Provide a “big picture” goal that is explicitly cited in the foundational research (probably in the introduction/conclusion). Replicate this justification for your shared research with a quote from the source or paraphrased passage. Then concur with a personal connection of your own (2-4 sentences).
- **Goal #2** – Propose a narrow goal that focuses on how your sampling survey/experiment will expand the inventory of data considered relevant to fellow researchers on this topic. Make the case for your data collection. Note which populations have been previously studied and how your proposed population data provides unique perspectives that have been previously unstudied. (2-4 sentences)
- **Goal #3** – Name one additional goal that you hope your research accomplishes. (2-3 sentences)

2. Reasons for choosing the topic of interest and research question/project goal.

Compare your passions for the topic to the introductions of the foundational sources. Note similarities and differences between your perspective and that of your foundational authors. Good to tie in your own career plans here. (One to two paragraphs)

3. Data or information that will have to be collected to answer the research question/address the project goal.

Begin with a short annotated bibliography of sources that contributed to designing your sampling survey or experiment. Annotations will explain how each source contributed to creating the instrument(s) used in your study.

Then conclude with: “**Proposed instruments attached as an addendum to this IPF.**” Attach a copy of your survey to the IPF.

4. Brief list of possible sources of information to discuss during the introduction of the paper.

List two sources that you will cite in your introduction and include a quote or paraphrase that will be integrated into your paper’s introduction. Format as annotated bibliography entries with the annotations providing the quote or paraphrased passage.

5. Chosen or developed research method to collect and analyze data/information.

Here's where 50% of your effort goes. This is your first draft of the Methods section of your paper. It must be 500-1,000 words, tightly worded, no filler. Take your time to be accurate and efficient in transmitting the details of your research design. Your description needs to be sufficient to permit replication by other future researchers.

6. Equipment or resources needed to collect data or information.

List each piece of equipment required to implement your sampling survey or experiment. Describe in detail how your resource needs will be met. Give specific dates and times where experts or other outside help have been arranged. Include your two assigned Business Statistic assistants in your resources list.

Example: "Chrome Books – All GHC students are issued their own Chrome Books. These devices will be used to collect data from the students."

7. Anticipated challenges to implementing the chosen research method (to collect and analyze data or to pursuing research methods appropriate to a paper that supports a performance/exhibit/product).

List two sources of statistical bias that are most likely to surface in your research. Annotate both bias terms with a sentence citing specific measures you are taking to minimize the influence of these bias concerns. DO NOT give me a broad description or definition of the bias term. Put your response in the context of your research and say how you are going to avoid it.

8. Expected approvals needed and from where (IRB, etc)

Incorporate The Following Wording: "My research will involve an anonymous sampling survey of GHC students (or substitute your research population). No physical contact will occur in the course of my research. Questions will avoid any topics that could prove emotionally disturbing to respondents. I have determined that my research will not require an IRB."

INFORMAL ORAL PRESENTATION – Five Minutes, Five Slides

Presentations will be the week of 10/16 – 10/19.

Slide #1 – Foundational Source #1

Slide #2 – Foundational Source #2

Slide #3 – Methods - Population

Slide #4 – Methods - Instruments

Slide #5 – Research Question

These presentations should not be rehearsed, but your considerable preparation will be reflected in your five slides. Explicitly implement the six recommendations from "How To Avoid Death By Powerpoint" (to be viewed in class).