

RESEARCH REPORT PROPOSAL ASSIGNMENT

Proposal

Research Report Proposal

The purpose of this project is to get you to determine early in the term what you are planning to research. It's to give you direction now.

A research report proposal is a formal document which simply proposes a question you would like to answer, a project you would like to do, or an area you'd like to do more research in. What makes this proposal more than saying you'd like to research in the fields of engineering or computers, it forces you to determine what type of research you'll be coming up against. From this you can determine whether or not your subject is suitable for research or whether or not there are materials available for research. This is a good, time-saving idea.

Problem-Solution

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Your research report will be a white paper. A white paper is a technical or business benefits document that introduces a challenge faced by its readers and makes a strong case why a particular approach to solving the problem is preferred. A white paper usually proposes a solution to a problem, but can also introduce a new concept or describe how to perform technical tasks.

So your research report will be on a problem-solution topic.

Organization

Research Report Organization

Here's how you organize a research report proposal.

- I. Introduction
 - A. What is this proposal report?
 - B. What is the purpose of this proposal?
 - C. What is the scope of this proposal?
 - D. What is the plan of development of the proposal?
- II. Define the problem
 - A. State briefly the general subject being investigated.
 - B. Indicate the basis for restricting and focusing that general subject.
 - C. State clearly the restricted problem you plan to research—the best single sentence question you can state that identifies what it is you really want to find out.
 - D. Indicate the purpose for your report—what it should do for you, to whom it is written (your intended audience), and what use or uses you feel the report will have for your audience.

Organization

- III. Analyze the research problem and procedure.
 - A. Establish a clear relationship between the whole question or problem and its logical parts.
 - 1. Suggest a tentative outline by listing the main question or problem and the subordinate questions you will try to answer to solve the problem or answer the main question.
 - 2. Consider alternatives within your problem and formulate standards of judgment you will use in determining the best alternative.
 - B. Establish clearly your commitment to following the procedure below to solve your research problem and lead to you a quality finished product (schedule).
 - 1. The preliminary work
 - 2. Reading and note taking
 - 3. Evaluating and interpreting the data
 - 4. Outlining the defense of the thesis and the plan of the paper
 - 5. Writing the drafts
 - 6. Documenting the paper
 - 7. Composing the final paper
 - 8. Presenting the supplements to the paper
 - 9. Presenting the paper appropriately on time
- IV. Submit a preliminary bibliography of at least ten sources representing the honest search you have conducted most appropriate for your research problem and solution. Bibliography must accurately follow APA documentation style.

Guidelines

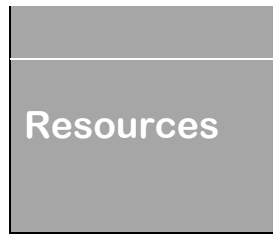
Guidelines

- Present research report as a formal letter.
- Attach to proposal the outline, schedule, and bibliography

Checklist

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- Do you have a strong, developed introduction?
- Do you have at least one paragraph telling me in detail what topics you want to research and why?
- Do you have at least one paragraph telling me of your background experience and your preliminary research?
- Do you have at least one paragraph telling me about your limitations or problems you expect?
- Have you included a tentative outline?
- Have you included a tentative schedule?
- Have you included a bibliography of at least ten sources accurately



documented?

Resources

- Riordan, Chapter 16, “Proposals”