

The Annotated Bibliography served as an introduction to research generally and, more importantly, the topic you researched. Your discipline has a type of community language that we have referred to as its discourse; by now, you should be at the point where you feel familiar enough with your topic to begin relaying that discourse to others. For the research proposal, you will prepare a document that explains your topic's discourse before identifying an angle to enter the conversation yourself.

Your research proposal should do the following:

1. Briefly summarize your project as you envisioned it before your research for the Annotated Bibliography.
2. Explain several different positions (each might offer a solution to a problem, or argue for a different cause to the problem, etc. – these will be the different arguments about the issue that you have seen so far).
3. Offer an idea of where you might fit in (this could certainly change as you move forward; it should be determined by research).

Note: You do not need to offer a fully reasoned argument at this point. You should justify your entry into the conversation by discussing what you have found in your research, but you do not need to prove why your position is *correct*. Ultimately, you should use this document to inform your readers about your issue rather than make an argument.

Guidelines: Your proposal needs to be 650-700 words. You need to discuss each of the five sources you found for your Annotated Bibliography. Your proposal should be typed, double spaced, in 12-point font. Finally, you must include a Works Cited page using the MLA Style Guide on the Purdue OWL.

I will evaluate your research proposal as a written document first, considering organization, support, mechanics, and style.

EN 2000 – 077: Research Proposal Assignment Sheet
 DUE DATE: 16 February 2012

Criteria/ Performance Indicators	A	B	C	D	F
Organization	Clear thesis; effective introduction and conclusion; paragraph organization serves clear purpose	Occasionally needs better transitions; purpose for and organization of paper still clear	Organizational strategy unclear or clumsy; transitions awkward	Thesis undefined; transitions unidentifiable	Essay's organization erratic; paragraphs obviously out of order
Development / Support	Main points of the selected assigned reading clearly define essay's central idea	Central idea explained and developed; occasionally lacks defense of central points	Use of readings satisfactory but predictable	Central idea underdeveloped without much use of readings	Fails to explain essay's established central idea
Mechanics	Consistent use of standard, grammatically-correct English	Only a few grammar mistakes; easily correctible	Consistent problems, but grammar does not completely obstruct essay	Frequent and inconsistent grammar usage becomes obstacle for reader	Almost no attention to grammar conventions
Style / Usage	Vocabulary is precise and used effectively; word choice advances essay	Only a few sentences awkward, wordy	Sentence-level structure and word choice consistently awkward	Inconsistent usage confuses meaning of words	Usage makes essay difficult to comprehend