<u>**Template for an MLIS Guided Research Proposal MLIS 9411-9412**</u>

GUIDED RESEARCH PROPOSAL FOR <u>   **Fall 2014**   </u>

                                                                           Term (Fall/Winter/Summer) and **Year**

Student Name: Mark Borden

Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Lu Xiao

Title of Project: Directive Speech in Wiki Article for Deletion Discussions

Project Outline:

Background:

Dr. Xiao has previously collected data studying the content of Wikipedia's Articles for Deletion (AfD) forum. This forum allows online users to argue for, or against, the continuing existence of a Wikipedia article that is deemed controversial. Dr. Xiao has used software to extract instances of users employing direct speech, formed as imperatives, during these AfD discussions. For this Guided Research project I will take that previously collected data and perform qualitative data analysis of it.

Research Questions

I want to know more about how users employ directive speech, formed as imperatives, when engaging in online deliberations. More specifically I want to understand how users in a collaborative online environment, the AfD, utilize directive speech in their arguments/counter-arguments during deliberations.

Methodology

I will begin by taking the 84 sets of collected data and running it through software that will convert it into more readable .txt files. From there Dr. Xiao, and myself, will independently use open qualitative coding on the same file then meet to compare our results. During that meeting we will construct the coding scheme that is to be used for the rest of the project. Using that scheme I will code the entirety of the collected data.

Scholarly Significance.

Wikipedia is a major source of information on the internet and the results of this research project will contribute to our understanding of how participants of the AfD forum engage in online deliberation.

Academic Value

Following completion of my MLIS degree I intend to pursue a career in Information Architecture or User Experience Research and the hands-on experience I receive working on this guided research project will be invaluable in achieving that goal.

Reading List

Arazy, O., Stroulia, E., Ruecker, S., Arias, C., Fiorentino, C., Ganev, V., & Yau, T. (2010). Recognizing contributions in wikis: Authorship categories, algorithms, and visualizations. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, 61*(6), 1166-1179.

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Hara, N., Shachaf, P., & Hew, K. F. (2010). Cross-cultural analysis of the wikipedia community. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, 61*(10), 2097-2108.

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Jodi Schneider, Krystian Samp, Alexandre Passant, and Stefan Decker. 2013. Arguments about deletion: how experience improves the acceptability of arguments in ad-hoc online task groups. In *Proceedings of the 2013 conference on Computer supported cooperative work* (CSCW '13). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 1069-1080.

Lucassen, T., Muilwijk, R., Noordzij, M. L., & Schraagen, J. M. (2013). Topic familiarity and information skills in online credibility evaluation. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, 64*(2), 254-264.

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Ryan, G. W., & Bernard, R. (2003, February 1). Techniques to identify themes in qualitative data. *Field Methods*, *15*(1), 85-109.

Shen, X., Cheung, C. M. K., & Lee, M. K. O. (2013). What leads students to adopt information from wikipedia? an empirical investigation into the role of trust and information usefulness. *British Journal of Educational Technology, 44*(3), 502-517.

Stvilia, B., Twidale, M. B., Smith, L. C., & Gasser, L. (2008). Information quality work organization in wikipedia. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, 59*(6), 983-1001

Wildmuth, B. M. (2009). *Applications of Social Research Methods to Questions in Information and Library Science* (pp. 297-319). N.p.: Libraries Unlimited.

Xiao, L., & Askin, N. (2014, May). What influences online deliberation? A Wikipedia study. *Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology*, *65*(5), 898-910.

Yuan, Y. C., Cosley, D., Welser, H. T., Xia, L., & Gay, G. (2009). The diffusion of a task recommendation system to facilitate contributions to an online community. *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication, 15*(1), 32-59.

Timetable:

Week 1

Meet with Dr. Xiao to receive the previously collected data and be trained on how to use the conversation software.

Week 2

Use the software to convert the collected data into .txt files needed to complete the research project. Remain in contact throughout the week with Dr. Xiao to report progress and troubleshoot.

Week 3

Both Dr. Xiao and I independently use open coding to qualitatively analyze the same data set.

Week 4

Meet with Dr. Xiao to compare the results of our coding and use them to formalize a coding scheme to be used for the remainder of the project.

Weeks 5-11

Use our scheme to code the 84 files, 14 per week, contacting Dr. Xiao via phone, or email, on Monday's to report progress and receive feedback/advice on how to address issues that arise.

Week 12

Meet with Dr. Xiao in person to present my completed work and debrief.

ETHICS APPROVAL:
Any non-medical research involving human subjects carried out as part of this project will require ethics approval. Contact fims-ethics@uwo.ca for information about ethical review.
Will any part of this project require ethics review?　　○ YES　● NO

PROJECT APPROVALS - *Please read before signing*:

I have read the requirements of the Guided Research Project and understand that, in a co-supervision situation, *the full-time faculty member takes primary responsibility for the study*. As such, all meetings, discussions of the project, marking of various components and problem-solving must involve the primary Supervisor.

Primary Supervisor: _____

Co-Supervisor (if applicable): _____

Associate Dean/Program or
Coordinator Approval: _____

Date: _____