

**Outline of Proposal**  
PA 604: Methods of Analysis in Public and Urban Affairs  
(Spring 2020 - World Campus)  
20 points  
Due: February 15, 2020

## **Overview:**

In this assignment, you'll be submitting a 1-page outline of your final research proposal. This outline should follow your typical outline structure (e.g. use bullet points, sentences, etc.), and cover all the major sections of your final proposal (e.g. introduction, literature review/theory, data and methods, etc.). Remember to draw on your research question quiz (dependent and independent variables used) as the basis for this outline as well as the final proposal.

## **Introduction**

- Statement of the problem or outcome to be explained. State your variables (dependent and independent) and the relationship between them. State why this is an “important” research question/research problem to address practically and/or theoretically.

## **Literature Review/Theory**

- Outline of theories that pertain to the problem. Include at least one existing theory (based on previous literature). Attempt to develop your own theory about the relationship between the variables.

## **Data & Methods**

- Discuss data you plan to use and your collection plan. Although this does not need to be set in stone, discuss whether you plan to rely on secondary data or collect data of your own (e.g. interviews, ethnography, surveys, etc). Discuss how you will operationalize your variables. In addition, discuss how your research design will allow you to discriminate between competing theories/explanations.
- Briefly discuss (as a way of “thinking-through”) ways you might analyze those data that you will collect.