

May 2, 2013

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plainnat-nourl Title: Research Proposal Author: Steven Paul Mazza Latex input: research-
proposal

Thesis Proposal

Your Name Degree and Program Department University Name

Committee Chair(s)

----- Professor Runciter,
Ph. D

----- Professor Jefferson,
Ph. D

Committee Member(s)

----- Professor Weishaupt,
Ph. D

----- Professor Wilson, Ph.
D

May 1, 2013

Abstract Insert the abstract here. The abstract should summarize your research in clear and concise language. You should write your abstract with the idea that it may be the only section that will actually be read and the sole representation of your research.

Some primary factors that you should consider for the abstract:

Motivation: Why do we care? Problem statement: What are you trying to address? Approach: How will you address the problem? Results: What is the answer or expected answer? Conclusions: What are the implications?

Introduction Introduction to the research including background, current research in the area, etc.

Purpose or Hypothesis The purpose or hypothesis of the research. This is a more general overview of your research.

Research Question(s) Insert your specific and answerable research question(s) here. Bullet points are OK. The idea is to be as clear as possible.

Importance of the Project The importance of the research including what makes your research unique and/or the specific contribution you seek to make.

Method of Approach The research methodology you will employ including location, data collection techniques, analysis techniques, etc.

Work Plan This is arguably the most important part of the proposal as it shows how you will conduct your study. As such, it should be as realistic as possible and very detailed. For my proposal I broke it down by what I intended to accomplish each month.

August 1. Determine survey questions

October 2. IRB request - 2 months 3. Meet with committee

November 4. Mail surveys 5. Data Entry 6. Submit abstract for professional conference paper or poster presentation

December 7. Data Entry

January 8. Data analysis and write-ups 9. Begin writing thesis draft 10. Brown bag presentation to department

February - April 11. Continue writing thesis and revise when necessary 12. Submit draft to committee for review

May 13. Final draft complete by end of May with committee revisions

Budget This should be as detailed as possible but simple to understand. A simple table with line items should suffice. Any descriptions or justifications can be done below the table.

Line Item Amount

Total

References Insert your references here. This includes pretty much everything read that has informed your research design. Make sure you use the format recommended by your discipline or organization. These examples are in Chicago.

RD Bullard, *Dumping in Dixie: Race, Class, and Environmental Quality* (Westview Pr, 2000). RD Bullard, "Environmental Justice in the 21st Century: Race Still Matters," *Phylon* (1960-) (2001): 151–71. RL Bunch, and RE Lloyd, "The Cognitive Load of Geographic Information," *The Professional Geographer* 58, no. 2 (2006): 209–20. M Checker, *Polluted Promises: Environmental Racism and the Search for Justice in a Southern Town* (NYU Press, 2005). M Granovetter, "The Strength of Weak Ties: A Network Theory Revisited," *Sociological theory* 1 (1983): 201–33. MS Granovetter, "The Strength of Weak Ties," *The American Journal of Semiotics* 78, no. 6 (1973): 1360. JK Jung, and S Elwood, "Extending the Qualitative Capabilities of GIS: Computer-Aided Qualitative Gis," *Transactions in GIS* 14, no. 1 (2010): 63–87. MP Kwan, and G Ding, "Geo-Narrative: Extending Geographic Information Systems for Narrative Analysis in Qualitative and Mixed-Method Research," *The Professional Geographer* 60, no. 4 (2008): 443–65.