**Title of Project: “The Black Soul”**

**Research Questions:**

1. **What was America’s response to Black music?**
2. **What is Black music?**
3. **In what ways did Black music influence the dominant white culture and what ways did it challenge it?**
4. **What escapes did music provide to Black people?**

**Statement of Purpose: Blues and the roots of Black culture today has always been something the interested me. I have always had a fondness for the especially for the Blues and what it meant it still means to Black people.**

**Background: I realized after talking to a friend of mine who was listening to Hip-Hop that he had no idea the roots and the importance of the roots of the music he listened to. Blues, for example is one of the most important ways Blacks expressed themselves and many to day do realize it. I have always considered myself a Blues man and lover of my roots. Indeed, I even taught myself how to play the Blues-Harmonica so I can play along with my hero’s: Son House, Little Walter and the like.**

**Significance: Blues and the roots of what we call Hip-Hop, Rap, Soul and Rnb are all have the same roots in the Blues (also gospel). It has been a long time since I read about the influence of the Blues on current waves of music. People often forget the roots and the importance of their roots. People need to know who these artist are and why there was a difference and what that difference was between the Delta-Blues and the Chicago blues and why they both played a part in shaping America today. I hope to learn in-depth knowledge on the subject and I hope to discover influence that Black music had that I never considered.**

**Description: I expect to do interviews to really generalize what people know about the blues. I will use music both new and the Blues to compare and contrast. I will also use historical account to find the roots of Black music.**

**Answer the following questions: The instructor should let me pick this subject because the Blues is steeped in the Black struggles, slavery and hard times of black people. I also consider the roots of Black music to have one of the non-recognized biggest effects on culture today. Black people are both revered and despised and I think it is a worth well un-orthdoxed approach to understanding a bigger issue: How and why are Black American both loved, hated and what it did to change America to the musically powerhouse that it is today?**