

ASSIGNMENT #5: A Proposal

*The purpose of this assignment is to give you an opportunity to try out your skills as a survey researcher and proposal writing. Using the following guidelines, write a **brief** proposal to conduct survey research on some aspect of your topic. Write the proposal as if you are applying for a research grant.*

Please attend to the due dates on the syllabus.

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1. Format - please give your proposal a title and label each section with appropriate subtitles.
 2. Write a brief introduction that includes the purpose of your research, why it is important, and to whom your findings are intended. Your introduction should also include an *explanatory* research question appropriate to conduct survey research on your topic.
 3. Write a brief literature review using at least six sources. Please list these sources on your "Works Cited" page. Provide annotations of these sources in Appendix B. **Please note that two of these sources must be new - that is, not on previous annotated bibliographies.**
 4. Write a hypothesis based on your research question. Please refer to your textbook for assistance and ideas.
 5. Identify and conceptualize your independent and dependent variables.
 6. Select which type of survey research (mail, telephone, structured interview, web survey) you think will be most appropriate for your topic and support your selection.
 7. Describe your sampling design. Who will receive your survey? What sampling method will you use? How does this design ensure that your sample will represent the population from which you are sampling?
 8. Draft at least 10 closed-ended questions that measure your variables. In addition to following the guidelines for writing clear questions, you may want to re-read the pages in your textbook on *conceptualization and operationalization*.
 9. Draft at least 2 open-ended questions to obtain additional information about your topic.
 10. In your proposal briefly describe the methods you will use to protect the anonymity or confidentiality of your human subjects?
 - 11. Pre-test your questionnaire. Bring 5 copies of a draft of your 12 questions to class . Your esteemed colleagues will serve as a focus group for you to pre-test your questions. You can earn up to 15 points toward your assignment grade by participating in this pre-test. Therefore, if you do not pre-test your questionnaire in class the maximum you will be able to earn on this assignment is 85 points.**
 12. Revise your questionnaire & proposal appropriately. Submit **both** your draft (as an attachment) and revised version– Appendix A – with your proposal.

Hint: don't forget to write a conclusion.