

Research Proposal (10%)

Assignment: Write a persuasive proposal (3-4 pages, 900-1200 words not including your Works Cited page) that identifies an urgent global injustice you have chosen to research (from the list provided in class) and creates a plan for the research work you will complete this semester. Quote from at least three (3) credible sources in the proposal, and include a Works Cited list of all of the sources you used in the paper.

Entering the Conversation

By focusing your research on an urgent global injustice and learning about its history and current state, you are entering into a conversation with others who are also passionate about this issue. This proposal is not your final research essay, but it is your first step toward it and it is a persuasive document bringing together some initial research on your topic.



Directions: Your research proposal should be in essay format (no bullet points) and include the following sections **using the following headings:**

1. **Introduction:** In a single concise and focused paragraph, define the current global injustice in the topic being researched (a problem in a single country that has not currently been solved), and explain the nature and scope of this problem. This introduction must also include a specific, arguable and complex thesis statement that **argues why this particular problem is urgent**, specifying what the consequences will be if the problem is not solved.
2. **Background/Context:** In about four paragraphs, explain the background and context of the problem. This includes but is not limited to why this problem exists, where the problem is occurring, the players involved in the problem, as well as the primary scientific, cultural, economic, societal and/or political failures that have shaped the problem. This section should expand on the definition of the problem offered in the introduction, and using specific, cited evidence provide a detailed picture of the current state of the problem. Please make sure to draw upon class discussions for key concepts and terms we have been studying to show your knowledge of global issues and academic tone (example: global citizenship, single story, capability approach and son). **Make sure to quote or paraphrase material from at least three current, credible sources, including 1 academic journal, and to cite them according to MLA guidelines** to support any claims made in this section.
3. **Research Questions:** **Without answering any of them**, develop one paragraph including some specific preliminary research questions about the problem that will help you to better understand the problem's history and urgency. For example, you can ask questions about who benefits as a result of the problem, why this problem is currently without a solution, and who is currently interested in working towards a solution. Try especially to develop **questions for**

which the answers are data (i.e., numbers and percentages). Determine from your preliminary research if there are any additional questions you think will need to answer to understand the history of the problem and advocate for a solution. These questions can guide the next phase of your research.

4. Review of the Research: This final section should include one paragraph or so: 1) a paragraph reviewing the research you have undertaken so far (i.e., how you located and how you evaluate your current sources), as well as your projected research methodology (i.e., how you plan to locate and evaluate your future research sources).

Requirements:

- 3-4 full pages, 900-1200 words not including your Works Cited
- Minimum of three (3) current, credible sources, including 1 academic journal
- MLA Format