

PLANNING YOUR RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Directions: Use the format below to formulate your Preliminary Research Proposal. Consider each question thoroughly, addressing all required components in your own plan. Some questions you will not be able to answer completely in this first draft.

Research Proposal

Title: (Clear, informative, and “catchy”)

Project Overview:

1. What is the general area(s) of investigation? What specific area(s) within the field will be investigated researched and/or studied? Describe briefly the project you are proposing.

Problem Statement:

2. What proven need will be addressed? What real problem will be solved?
3. Who is the intended audience of the project? Who, other than the student, will learn or benefit as a result of the work? To whom will the outcomes be communicated? For whom is the product or result intended?

Objectives:

4. What is the purpose of this research?
5. What will be the product(s) and/or outcome(s) of the year of study?
6. How will the product and outcomes be communicated to or performed for the selected audience? What will be the outlet vehicle?

Background:

7. What will be the topic of the synthesis paper and how does this fit with your proposed project? How will knowledge or ability in the field be acquired, developed, and demonstrated through the year? What resources will you consult?

Research Methodology:

Research Questions

8. What are your research questions? What is your hypothesis?

Research Design:

9. Identify whether you are doing Qualitative or Quantitative research and what specific design model you are using (i.e., historical research, descriptive research, etc.).
10. How will you collect data and from whom?

Logistical Considerations:

11. What resources will be required for the project (human, print, organizations, media)? What are the special considerations of the project? (cost, materials, equipment, transportation, special permission, printing/distribution)
12. Create a tentative schedule and timeline for completing the project. What major goals will be accomplished during each marking period or month?

(Please add the signatures below to the typed Preliminary Research Proposal. This plan will be revised based on comments from the advisor/mentor and teacher. Signatures by adults will be added Second Quarter when the Proposal is in its final format. Those signatures will indicate that the document has been read and given feedback.)

Student Signature

G/T Resource Teacher Signature

Mentor/Advisor Signature

Gifted and Talented Program

Major Assignments at a Glance

First Quarter: September & October

- Locate a primary advisor or establish a scholarly relationship with a mentor
- Conduct and transcribe an interview
- Generate an Annotated Source list
- Send business letters to professional organizations
- Develop a Preliminary Research Proposal

Second Quarter: November, December, & January

- Prepare an outline for a research paper
- Make a formal presentation
- Acquire necessary skills to complete the proposed product
- Begin a draft of the research paper
- Submit finalized versions of the Proposal and Source List

Third Quarter: February & March

- Complete a Preliminary Abstract
- Compose and complete research paper
- Conduct original/primary research
- Create the proposed final product
- Design a display board to communicate the scope of the research project
- Prepare a proposal to present at an academic meeting
- Give a presentation in a content classroom

Fourth Quarter: April, May, & June

- Finalize Abstract
- Present (publish, teach, assemble, analyze and present data, screen a video, perform, display, etc.) a final product to the proposed audience
- Collect and respond to audience evaluation of the final product (revising as necessary)
- Complete a portfolio that demonstrates all major assignments for the year