

Oral Presentation #1 – Research Project Proposal

**due Monday October 15<sup>th</sup> (Group A) & Wednesday October 17<sup>th</sup> (Group B)**

- You will have **five** minutes to present to the class your research project proposal that includes research using *at least two sources*
  - **You must hand in a sheet of your sources in correct ASA format with annotations**
- In your presentation, you must include: research question, working thesis statement and two sources discussed (using author(s)' name(s) and year of publication) and reason for selecting your topic.
- Your peers will write feedback after your presentation that I will discuss with you during our one-on-one conferences

**Grading Rubric**

SOC 210 Oral Presentation #1   		
Criteria	Ratings	Pts
<b>Introduction + Structure</b> The introduction grabs audience attention and the speaker makes an attempt to relate the material to their audience. The introduction includes the student's research topic, research question, and working thesis. The speech is organized in a logical structure that is cohesive and strong.	<i>This area will be used by the assessor to leave comments related to this criterion.</i>	1.5 pts
<b>Research Question + Thesis</b> The research question is clearly stated, the thesis is argumentative and demonstrates an educated response to the research question. The research question is an open-ended question rather than a closed "yes or no" answerable inquiry.	<i>This area will be used by the assessor to leave comments related to this criterion.</i>	1.0 pts
<b>Information + Content</b> Presentation contains factual information relevant to the topic. The student summarizes at least two sources (referring to the sources by authors' last names and the year of publication) in their spoken presentation and discusses how both sources contribute to their research. The speaker makes a strong conclusion and provides at least on question they have about their topic. The information was well-communicated and presented in a logical sequence.	<i>This area will be used by the assessor to leave comments related to this criterion.</i>	1.5 pts
<b>Style</b> The speaker maintains good eye contact with the audience and moves around the room, using gestures and bringing energy to their presentation. The speaker uses a clear, audible voice and uses good pronunciation. The length of the presentation was between 4-5 minutes.	<i>This area will be used by the assessor to leave comments related to this criterion.</i>	1.0 pts
		<b>Total Points: 5.0</b>

Thesis Statement

In all writing, you must develop a thesis statement – 1-2 sentences that concisely and clearly depict your original argument and analysis. This statement focuses **your** idea about a topic, communicating to the reader what the paper is about and providing them a guide to the remainder of the paper. The thesis statement should be clear and direct; avoid vague language but also avoid using language such as “my point is...” or “the thesis of my paper is...” The thesis statement should be limited to what you can thoroughly accomplish in the following 8-10 pages.

For this research project, your thesis statement may go through several revisions, but at each stage of the project, you must provide your working thesis (or thesis in-progress) that is influenced by your research process and readings along the way. The thesis statement you submit with your outline, annotated sources and Oral Presentation #1 comprises 2.5% of your final grade in this class.

### Outline

Outline your paper based on your research: what will you argue and how will you present your argument?

1). *Why Outline?*

- Creating an outline sets hierarchical organization of your paper
- Research outlines help you keep track of material
- Supportive in the writing process; organizes your ideas; ordered overview of your writing
- Demonstrates the relationships between your ideas
- Defines boundaries and groups

2). *How to Start:*

- **Brainstorm/List:** what are all the ideas you want to include in your paper
- **Organize:** group the related ideas together
- **Order:** arrange material in subsections starting with general and down to specifics and examples

3). *Thesis Construction*

- Your thesis statement should be specific—it should cover only what you will discuss in your paper and should be supported with specific evidence.
- The thesis statement usually appears at the end of the first paragraph of a paper.
- Your topic may change as you write, so you may need to revise your thesis statement to reflect exactly what you have discussed in the paper.

4). *Questions to Consider*

- What are the most important aspects of this topic I should consider?
- What specific examples will I include?
  - Where do these examples belong?
  - Do my examples help strengthen my argument?

### Grading Rubric

SOC 210 Outline Rubric <span style="float: right;">✎ 🔍 🗑️</span>		
Criteria	Ratings	Pts
<b>Thesis Statement</b> The thesis statement is written and edited to be clear and concise. The thesis is thorough and demonstrates investigation relevant to the research question. The thesis statement answers the research question and presents an argumentative statement.	<i>This area will be used by the assessor to leave comments related to this criterion.</i>	1.5 pts
<b>Research Question</b> The student includes the research question at the top of the outline. The research question is open-ended in nature, rather than a closed question that could be answered with "yes or no." The research question is sociological in nature.	<i>This area will be used by the assessor to leave comments related to this criterion.</i>	0.5 pts
<b>Structure</b> The outline demonstrates organizational thinking about how to answer the research question. The subheadings adhere to and support the thesis. The writer includes at least two paragraphs outlined in the assignment. The outline is thorough enough to provide context and explanation of what the writer intends to argue throughout the paper.	<i>This area will be used by the assessor to leave comments related to this criterion.</i>	2.0 pts
<b>Total Points: 4.0</b>		

### Annotated Bibliography

A **bibliography** is a list of sources (books, journals, Web sites, periodicals, etc.) one has used for researching a topic. Bibliographies are sometimes called "References" or "Works Cited" depending on the style format you are using. A bibliography usually just includes the bibliographic information (i.e., the author, title, publisher, etc.). An **annotation** is a summary and/or evaluation.

Therefore, an **annotated bibliography** includes a summary and/or evaluation of each of the sources. Depending on your project or the assignment, your annotations may do one or more of the following.

- **Summarize:** Some annotations merely summarize the source. What are the main arguments? What is the point of this book or article? What topics are covered? If someone asked what this article/book is about, what would you say? The length of your annotations will determine how detailed your summary
- **Assess:** After summarizing a source, it may be helpful to evaluate it. Is it a useful source? How does it compare with other sources in your bibliography? Is the information reliable? Is this source biased or objective? What is the goal of this source?
- **Reflect:** Once you've summarized and assessed a source, you need to ask how it fits into your research. Was this source helpful to you? How does it help you shape your argument? How can you use this source in your research project? Has it changed how you think about your topic?

Why write an annotated bibliography?

**To learn about your topic:** Writing an annotated bibliography is excellent preparation for a research project. Just collecting sources for a bibliography is useful, but when you have to write annotations for each source, you're forced to read each source more carefully. You begin to read more critically instead of just collecting information. At the professional level, annotated bibliographies allow you to see what has been done in the literature and where your own research or scholarship may fit.

**To help you formulate a thesis:** Every good research paper is an argument. The purpose of research is to state and support a thesis. So a very important part of research is developing a thesis that is debatable, interesting, and current. Writing an annotated bibliography can help you gain a good perspective on what is being said about your topic.

**To help other researchers:** Extensive and scholarly annotated bibliographies are sometimes published. They provide a comprehensive overview of everything important that has been and is being said about that topic. You may not ever get your annotated bibliography published, but as a researcher, you might want to look for one that has been published about your topic.

SOC 210 Annotated Bibliography Rubric <span style="float: right;">  </span>		
Criteria	Ratings	Pts
<b>Source Quality</b> The writer includes at least 10 resources from scholarly, peer reviewed sources, sociological in nature. The sources included are chosen intentionally and each source is from a reputable publisher, journal, book source, etc. Other sources may be used in addition to the 10 peer-reviewed academic sources.	<i>This area will be used by the assessor to leave comments related to this criterion.</i>	1.25 pts
<b>Annotation</b> The annotation for each source includes 5-10 sentences that address the following: author(s) name, year of publication, authors' qualifications/employment, methodologies used (how research/knowledge was collected), chief findings and conclusions.	<i>This area will be used by the assessor to leave comments related to this criterion.</i>	1.25 pts
<b>Format</b> The student includes sources listed in ASA (American Sociological Association) style. Punctuation, spacing and capital letters are correctly included in the submission.	<i>This area will be used by the assessor to leave comments related to this criterion.</i>	0.5 pts
<b>Total Points: 3.0</b>		