

In the last two assignments, you have been asked to conduct research and synthesize sources and information. Now you will add your own ideas and voice—*generating* knowledge—by proposing a viable solution to a problem in the world around you.

For this assignment, you will write a proposal to solve the problem or concern that you have researched and explained in the last two assignments. (You may be working individually, or you may be in groups; we will vote on it.) If you are working in groups, you may want to choose a partner whose topics are complementary to yours—this way, you will be able to draw on more research, not just yours. You will then present the proposal to the class in a formal presentation pitching your solution. This means you will have to define your problem, demonstrate that it is significant and deserves attention, and propose a specific, researched solution.

Although you will present your proposal to the class, keep in mind that your genuine audience is the people who can make the changes you are requesting. *Really think about who has the power to enact change*; intermediate deans, committee chairs and organizations may have a lot more to do with the actual nitty-gritty of what happens on campus than does the president. Research this part thoroughly.

Presentation Print Deliverables (80% of the Grade)

You will produce a final, polished, printed proposal that should be tailored to the rhetorically appropriate conventions. There are no page requirements. Put yourself in the situation of your audience. What would be appropriate? What would have the effect you want in your situation? In grading your proposal, I will be expecting the following components:

1. **Front matter** --a cover letter, an abstract, or an executive summary, based on your topic and your audience. We will discuss these items further in conferences.
2. **A brief but thorough pitch** that defines your issue, demonstrates why it deserves attention, and proposes your specific solution.
3. **Works Cited page**
4. **At least one appendix**, based on content within. Examples of an appendix could be a time/budget chart, survey results plotted on a graph, tables outlining trends over time, or even selected illustrations of your point, as long as they *help construct your argument* and are not just peripherals thrown in to satisfy the requirement.

The Presentation (20% of the Grade)

You will be expected to hand out your print packet to the class members and give a formal presentation. If we are in groups, all members will need to participate in the presentation. The presentation should be approximately 5-7 minutes long, depending on how many groups we have. Your presentation should cover the elements of your proposal, and employ visual aids (your packet or others). Some additional aids you might want to include are:

- Posters, handouts, overheads, or physical items that can be passed around
- PowerPoint slides, web pages, computer graphics
- *Short* movie/TV clips (no more than 30 seconds - 1 minute of your overall presentation time)
- If you have other ideas, check with me first to approve them

Your visual aid(s) must be an integral part of your presentation and not merely an afterthought. They should not, however, overtake your presentation—I want to hear *you* discussing *your work*.