

Write your Research Paper Proposal in the following format:

- Paragraph of introduction to your topic.
- Research Hypothesis—expressed three ways :
 - As a one-sentence hypothesis
 - As a research question
 - As a title for your paper
- Essential Disciplines and Subdisciplines
- Definition/Explanation of any essential terms [legal terms or disciplinary jargon of the field you are researching] with footnoting of the sources of your definitions
- Description of how you will conduct your interdisciplinary research; the design of your research.
- Predicted research conclusions responsive to your research hypothesis.

Here are some common errors in Research Paper Proposals:

- no attribution of sources for definitions or no definitions for discipline-specific terms.
- inadequate research plan: the plan is a prose roadmap of where you want to go with the paper. It will be useful for your outline, but it is much more general.
- no mention either in the introduction or the research plan of the need for interdisciplinarity [i.e. necessity for 2 or more disciplines] to fully study the topic
- expected conclusions: just as, in a case brief, the rule of law is the answer to the issue, in your papers, the conclusions must answer the hypothesis.
- Do not introduce into the conclusion any element which does not follow from your lines of inquiry for the hypothesis.

Background / Introduction: (The background of your study discusses in depth about the idea.)

Research Hypothesis: (A research hypothesis is a statement of expectation or prediction that will be tested by research.)

Research Questions (A research question is a specific inquiry which the research seeks to provide a response to)

Study Design/Research Plan (The research design refers to the overall strategy that you choose)

Literature Reviewed/ References (A comprehensive summary of previous research on a topic).