Major Assignment 3
Proposal

Topic:

For this assignment you will apply what you have learned about rhetoric and genres in order to better understand and communicate about a problem that relates to your life. You will choose from one of the pre-selected topics on WO.

To complete this assignment, you will compose an argument written for an audience empowered to act to solve the problem you have identified. You will support your points using the secondary sources in the research packet for the topic of your choice and using the results of your field research.

Due Dates:

- **Sunday, November 7**: Rough draft due for conference
  - Submit by **10:30 p.m.** on WO under "First Draft of Proposal"

- **Sunday, November 14**: Revised draft due for peer review
  - Submit by **10:30 p.m**. on WO under "Revised Draft of Proposal"
  - **AND** to name folder in shared class Drive for Peer Review 3

- **Sunday, November 21**: Final draft due
  - Submit by **10:30 p.m.** on WO under assignment "Proposal Final Draft"

- **Sunday, November 21**: Reflection Memo 3 due
  - Submit by **10:30 p.m.** on WO under "Reflection Memo 3"

See course policies for penalties for late papers.

Length:

Total of 1,500–1,800 words

Failure to meet the length requirement will result in an automatic deduction of ½ letter grade.

Requirements:

1. Choose an audience and genre.
    a. Audience: You should choose to write to an audience empowered to act to solve the problem you have identified. Your audience can be as narrow as a single person (the president of WIU, for example) or broader (all faculty at WIU), but it should not be just anyone interested in the topic. You must address a specific person or group of people.
    b. Genre: You can write in traditional essay format, or you can choose to write a personal letter (to a specific person) or open letter (to a broader group).
2. Your Proposal Essay should do the following:
    a. **Define** the problem.
        i. The sources you have been provided offer you a wide view of your topic. For this paper, you will need to narrow down the problem and identify a specific group of people you believe are impacted by the problem. Use the questions from IC "Chapter 4: Write a Proposal" to help you with this.
        ii. You should use rhetorical strategies to help you convince your audience to view your problem in a specific way.
    b. **Propose a specific solution** for the problem.
        i. You should consider multiple solutions before deciding on the one you want to propose. You may also propose a multi-part solution. See IC "Chapter 4: Write a Proposal" to help you develop, evaluate, and propose your solution.
        ii. Your thesis should be a proposal for how the audience should solve the problem.
        iii. You should use rhetorical strategies to help you convince your audience to accept your solution as viable and preferable to other solutions and to act on your solution
    c. **Incorporate the secondary sources** you read about your topic to help you define the problem and propose solutions.
        i. Be sure to use a signal phrase and provide an in-text citation (see *e* below) whenever you quote, paraphrase, or summarize from a secondary source
    d. **Incorporate the results of your field research** to help you propose solutions.
        i. Be sure to use a signal phrase and provide an in-text citation (see *e* below) whenever you quote, paraphrase, or summarize from your field research
    e. **Include a works cited page** at the end of the essay.
        i. You must **cite *at least* two** of the secondary sources from the research packet on your topic—one scholarly source and one popular source—as well as your field research.
        ii. You may also cite up to two reputable sources found via web searches. You can use either MLA or APA citation style. Whichever you choose, you must be consistent (i.e., use the same style for in-text citations and the works cited page).

What I'll Be Looking for When I Grade Your Paper:

1. Have you chosen an appropriate audience?
2. Have you defined the problem and proposed a specific solution to the problem?
3. Have you made argumentative claims, supported by examples appropriate for your audience, to convince your audience to accept and act on your proposed solution?
4. Have you used rhetorical tools to define your problem and present your proposed solution to a specific audience?
5. Have you incorporated evidence from your field research and secondary sources to support your definition of the problem and chosen solution in your proposal?
6. Have you used in-text citations (either MLA or APA) consistently and appropriately in your proposal?
7. Have you provided a correct works cited list (in either MLA or APA)?
8. Have you paid attention to developing clear sentences and paragraphs?
9. Have you written coherent, grammatically correct prose?
10. Have you carefully edited and proofread your essay?

Formatting Your Files for Submission:

1. Name your file "ENG180ProposalYourLastName."
2. Set your document margins to 1" on all sides.
3. Use 12 point Times or Times New Roman font.
4. Double space (but do not create an extra space between paragraphs).
5. Choose an interesting title for your essay (not "Proposal").
6. Using the header feature of your word processing document, add the title of your proposal on the top left and your last name on the top right.

Submit to WesternOnline:

1. Make sure that your file is saved as a .PDF or .docx file.
2. Log on to WesternOnline and click on our class.
3. At the homepage, click on "Assessment" and "Assignments."
4. Click on the assignment(s) titled "Proposal."
5. Click on "Submit Files," Browse for your file, and then click on "Upload." (You should choose to browse "My Computer" to find your file.)
    a. You should now be returned to the assignment page. Under "Files to Submit" you should now see the name of your file.
    b. If you do not, then you will need to try to attach your file again.
    c. Do not paste your assignment into the comments box.
6. Once you are sure that your file is attached, click "Submit" at the bottom of the page. You will be taken to a page telling you that your file submission has been successful.
7. If you have trouble submitting, please call UTech at 309-298-2704.

Corrupted files and files submitted in any other format than .PDF or docx will be returned ungraded, and late penalties will apply.