

411 Proposal

Due Dates

Draft proposal & brief presentation/progress report
Finished Proposal

October 12
October 19

Length

~5 pages

Google Docs: draft your proposal in Google Docs and share a link to this on Canvas.

Overview

Your proposal will provide an account of your plans/goals for your final paper/project. It should include the following:

1. An introduction that provides background information, explains your goals, why the topic interests you, and/or why it matters.
2. A detailed explanation of what you plan to do, how you plan to do it, and your intended audience.
3. An account of the texts/materials/sources you will use. If you plan to use source texts to illustrate and support your work, list those. If you plan to use specific sources or “target texts” to analyze, describe these.
4. An account of how you plan to use A.I. tools as part of your reading, research and writing processes.
5. Anything you would like help with.

If you are far enough along, your proposal can provide a sample of the kind of work or analysis you propose to carry out.

Your choices with respect to topic and modality will determine the format of your proposal. Talk to me for advice. You can use section headings if you wish. The writing should be clear, cohesive, well-supported, and engaging. Make sure you have edited it carefully.

Where To Start

Start by looking at the [list of final paper/project topics I provided](#). They will help you formulate potential goals for your proposal. When working on a proposal, you can revise or adapt one of these final paper/project topics or talk to me about creating your own. Remember that these “off the shelf” final paper/project topics are a good fit for publication in [CODEBREAKER](#). So if you wish to select a topic with the potential for publication in [CODEBREAKER](#), start with this list.

I suggest you also begin by looking at [sample project proposals and sample final papers/projects created by past 411 students](#). See also the articles in the [2022](#), [2023-4](#), and [2025](#) issues of [CODEBREAKER](#), which contain many papers by 411 students.