Preparing for the Mini Research Proposal

[WLOs: 1, 2, 3] [CLOs: 1, 2]

Each week of this course, you will work on pieces of your mini research proposal final paper, which is due in Week 6 of this course. For this assignment, you will select a topic and do some preliminary research.

While the interactive you will review explains two major styles of an applied doctoral project, in this course you will be focusing on an ADP that looks like a qualitative or quantitative research study.

Prior to beginning work on this assignment,

* Complete the [*Introduction to Applied Doctoral Project (ADP)* (Links to an external site.)](https://content.bridgepointeducation.com/curriculum/file/f4ceaf41-35a8-43bd-802f-6183abd7d25c/1/Introduction%20to%20Applied%20Doctoral%20Project%20%28ADP%29.zip/story.html) interactive.
* Skim the table of contents of the [*Applied Doctoral Project Handbook* (Links to an external site.)](http://wpc.6fdc.edgecastcdn.net/006FDC/Doctoral/Handbooks/ADP_Handbook.pdf) and read Sections 1.0 and 2.0.
* Choose a topic within your field or specialization that you are interested in researching further.
* Find two current, peer-reviewed sources from the [Ashford University Library](https://ashford.instructure.com/courses/94668/external_tools/retrieve?display=borderless&url=https%3A%2F%2Flibrary.ashford.edu%2FAccount%2FLtiLogin.aspx%3Fcustom_redirectresource%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Flibrary.ashford.edu%2Findex.aspx) to support your topic.

[*Introduction to the Applied Doctoral Project (ADP)* (Links to an external site.)](https://content.bridgepointeducation.com/curriculum/file/f4ceaf41-35a8-43bd-802f-6183abd7d25c/1/Introduction%20to%20Applied%20Doctoral%20Project%20%28ADP%29.zip/story.html)

In your paper,

* Describe your topic or research focus (i.e., the issue, situation, or problem) in three to five sentences.
* Explain how the two current, peer-reviewed sources you found support your topic in three to five sentences.
  + Be sure to cite and include information from the two sources.
* Describe how your topic specifically relates to or fits your degree specialization in three to five sentences.
* Discuss what **qualitative** data you could gather related to your topic (i.e., observations or interviews) in three to five sentences.
* Discuss what **quantitative** data you could gather related to your topic (i.e., numbers) in three to five sentences.

The Preparing for the Mini Research Proposal paper

* Must be four to five double-spaced paragraphs in length (not including title and references pages) and formatted according to [*APA Style* (Links to an external site.)](http://writingcenter.ashford.edu/apa-style) as outlined in the Writing Center’s [*APA Formatting for Microsoft Word* (Links to an external site.)](http://writingcenter.ashford.edu/apa-formatting-word-2013) resource.
* Must include a separate title page with the following:
  + Title of paper in bold font
    - Space should be between title and the rest of the information on the title page.
  + Student’s name
  + Name of institution (Ashford University)
  + Course name and number
  + Instructor’s name
  + Due date
* Must utilize academic voice. See the [*Academic Voice* (Links to an external site.)](http://writingcenter.ashford.edu/academic-voice) resource for additional guidance.
* Must include an introduction and conclusion paragraph. Your introduction paragraph needs to end with a clear thesis statement that indicates the purpose of your paper.
  + For assistance on writing [*Introductions & Conclusions* (Links to an external site.)](http://writingcenter.ashford.edu/introductions-conclusions) as well as [*Writing a Thesis Statement* (Links to an external site.)](http://writingcenter.ashford.edu/writing-a-thesis), refer to the Writing Center resources.
* Must use at least two scholarly, peer-reviewed, credible sources in addition to the course text.
  + The [*Scholarly, Peer-Reviewed, and Other Credible Sources* (Links to an external site.)](https://content.bridgepointeducation.com/curriculum/file/e5359309-7d3c-4a21-a410-44d59303ccef/1/Scholarly%20Peer-Reviewed%20and%20Other%20Credible%20Sources.pdf) table offers additional guidance on appropriate source types. If you have questions about whether a specific source is appropriate for this assignment, please contact your instructor. Your instructor has the final say about the appropriateness of a specific source for a particular assignment.
  + To assist you in completing the research required for this assignment, view this [*Ashford University Library Quick ‘n’ Dirty* (Links to an external site.)](https://ashford.mediaspace.kaltura.com/media/Ashford+University+Library+Quick+%27n%27+Dirty/0_bcsbcjee) tutorial, which introduces the Ashford University Library and the research process, and provides some library search tips.
* Must document any information used from sources in APA Style as outlined in the Writing Center’s [*APA: Citing Within Your Paper* (Links to an external site.)](https://writingcenter.ashford.edu/apa-citing-within-your-paper) guide.
* Must include a separate references page that is formatted according to APA Style as outlined in the Writing Center. See the [*APA: Formatting Your References List* (Links to an external site.)](http://writingcenter.ashford.edu/format-your-reference-list) resource in the Writing Center for specifications.