

Proposal
(Essay #3)

For our final major essay before the portfolio, I'd like you to spend some time exploring a problem you believe needs to be solved and coming up with a solution for how to solve it. Your mission is to write a **3-5 page proposal** that addresses a problem of consequence addressed to an audience that would be interested in solutions to it.

While I want you to have freedom of choice in this assignment, I'm going to limit you to *problems of local concern*. In other words, the scale of the problem must be limited to one which in some way affects your community, so no proposals on how to bring peace to the Middle East or how to put a cap on NFL players' salaries.

A good way to generate ideas for a proposal is to start by identifying problems without worrying about solutions. In class, we'll work on generating lists of problems from your life, on USI's campus, and in your community, and once we have a solid list, we'll turn to strategies for finding solutions to these problems.

Your proposal needs to convince your readers that the problem you select is one they should be concerned about and must justify the solution or solutions you propose as reasonable and workable. Be sure to give equal attention to describing your problem and your solution. You'll need to keep your audience in mind as you plan, compose and revise the essay, because proposals, as a type of argumentative writing, only succeed if they convince readers to accept your proposed solution.

Guidelines:

- Workshop drafts and final, graded drafts must be typed and double-spaced. Use a standard font like Times New Roman in 10- or 12-point, and use one-inch margins on all sides. **DO NOT** double space between paragraphs.
- Put your name, my name, our course number (ENG100), and the date on separate lines in the top left-hand corner of your paper.
- Include page numbers at the bottom.
- Essays should be at least three FULL pages in length.