

## PROPOSAL

### 1) Describe your research topic:

- a. Introduce your **topic** and ask the **leading research question** that you propose to pursue for your research project.
- b. **Propose an initial response** to that leading question (your assumption based on exploratory research and thinking) in the form of **a working hypothesis/thesis** which you plan to investigate, open to question, and /or test through your research.

### 2) Describe your research strategy:

- a. What do you need to know?

Provide **a list of important questions** raised by your topic and suggested by your research question and working thesis/hypothesis—the questions for which you will seek answers and relevant evidence in your research paper. You may also which to describe central assumptions you hold about your topic which you propose to investigate and test. Your lists should reflect thorough and thoughtful preliminary exploration of your topic and be organized to suggest major lines of inquiry or organizational categories implied by your research question and working thesis.

- b. How and where will you look for answers? (DON'T respond, "In the Library!")

In this section of your proposal, **identify** the terms—**subject headings and key words**—which **define your investigation** and which you will use to find sources on your topic.

Describe the **plan** you are formulating for finding necessary sources and evidence for your research project, a clear sense of direction to launch yourself into your research in earnest, supported by substantial, promising exploratory research and preliminary investigation. [Note: Minimum of five sources—one/two from CD ROM, internet; four from print sources (Chinese and/or English)—should be provided.]

### 3) Describe the projected value of your research projects:

- a. Explain why you have chosen this research topic—the source of its interest or importance for you—and discuss why the choice is appropriate for this class.
- b. Explain what you anticipate to be the value of your research project, for yourself as well as for others. Why, after all, is this project worth doing?

## Proposal Check Sheet

- 1) Read section one of your partner's paper to yourself.
  - a) What is the working thesis? Is it clear? What do you honestly think? Too broad? Too narrow? Too off the wall? A possible paper thesis?
  - b) How are the leading questions? Do they make sense? Are they logical?
  - c) Now be honest: Is this a college-level topic?
  - d) Does it have anything to do with life in Taiwan or does it have relevance to the lives of people living on this island? Or does it focus on America and America's problems?
  - e) Can you think of any suggestions especially for this section of the paper?
  
- 2) Now read section two of your partner's paper.
  - a) How is the list of resources? Do they look impressive or pretty pathetic?
  - b) Is the research well done, or does it look like a shoddy job?
  - c) Can you think of any other resources that you might suggest to your partner?
  - d) Is there a minimum of five sources of varying mediums?
  - e) Do you have any suggestions for your partner for this very important section?
  
- 3) Now read the final section of the paper.
  - a) Does the justification make sense? Are you convinced that this is a valid research project?
  - b) Does your partner clearly validate the reason for writing this paper?
  
- 4) Now read the entire paper again from top to bottom.
  - a) As you read, circle any awkward or unclear sentences. Be brutally honest! Circle any misspelt words as well.
  - b) Do the essay parts of the proposal sound like a real essay or are they just a collection of choppy thoughts?
  - c) Does the whole thing work together as a decent representation of college-level work? Be honest! Better you than me!
  
- 5) Now add any comments/suggestions you think appropriate right now.

Composition/Conversation III  
Prof. Cecilia H.C. Liu

[MLA handbook \(Chinese version 6th ed. p. 96\).](#)

Although not very clear, the handbook, I think, regards the original language and translation in bracket as one entry marked by a period.

Based on the above info, here're some entries (with Wade-Giles Romanization) for your reference:

When English translation of the title is not provided:

**Citing Chinese Sources:**

Ch`en, Robert Ju-hsiu 陳儒修. "T`an-hsun Ts`ai Ming-liang tien-ying te hou-hsien-tai-hsing  
〈探尋蔡明亮電影的後現代性〉[Postmodernity in Tsai Ming-liang' s Films]." Liang-an  
hou-hsien-tai wend-hsueh yen-t`ao-hui 《兩岸後現代文學探討會》 [The Conference on  
Postmodern Literature in Mainland China and Taiwan]. Taipei: 1998/6/12.

When English translation is provided:

Chang, Ivy Ai-chu 張藹珠. "P`iao-p`o te tsai-t`i: Ts`ai Ming-liang tien-ying te  
shen-t`i-chu-ch`ang yu yu-wang-ch`ang-yu 〈漂泊的載體：蔡明亮電影的  
身體劇場與慾望場域〉 (Imagining Queer Bodies: The Erotic Site/Sight of Tsai  
Ming-liang's Films)." Chung-Wai Literary Monthly 358/30:10 (March 2002): 75-98.

Book (When English translation of the title is provided:)

Ts`ai, Ming-liang 蔡明亮. *Ch`ing-shao-nien no-cha* 《青少年哪吒》 (*Rebels of the Neon God*).  
Ed. Chang Ching-han 張靚菡. Taipei: Yuan-Liou, 1992.