

MMW₄: Prospectus

(10% of course grade)

Due: Beginning of section during Week 6 (Nov. 3-7)

Length: 3 pages

Sample: <http://provost.ucsd.edu/roosevelt/> [click on MMW Courses, then MMW 4]

(Note: Turn in your graded RQAB with your Prospectus; Save your graded Prospectus to turn in with your Final Paper during Week 10)

What is a Prospectus?

The prospectus is the plan for your final paper and contains, in paragraph form, all of the elements of the final paper. It is probably the most important, and often the most difficult, portion of the writing assignment. Its purpose is to begin organizing your research into the proper format; to begin formulating your thesis, counter/alternative argument(s), and rebuttal; and to begin planning how you will be using your sources to supply evidence along the way.

Your Prospectus should include:

- An **introduction** to your topic
- An explanation of the **problem/question** you are addressing (explicitly state your research question)
- Your **thesis** and **evidence** used to support it
- An introduction to each of the **scholarly interpretation(s)** you will be using (argument, counter-argument(s)/alternative argument(s)) and **evidence** used to support it
- **Rebuttal(s)** or weakness of the above argument(s). This can also be an explanation about why you find one (set of) argument(s) most convincing over others.
- **Conclusion** and explanation of the **significance** of your research
- **Works Cited Page** (no annotations)
- **Photocopies** of each page of text from which you cite and a photocopy of the title page of each source you list in your Works Cited page. You must label each page with the author's name and page number, and you must highlight the words/phrases you are citing.

Sources

Your Prospectus must cite and utilize each of the minimum **six (6) required sources**, including:

- at least **1 primary source**
- at least **1 scholarly journal article**

Formatting

Please consult the Model Prospectus, the MMW Style Sheet, and Raimes', *Keys for Writers* for specific MLA and formatting requirements. Deductions will apply to all MLA and formatting errors.