**Proposal:** Please answer the following questions/statements about the psychology research you are designing (but **not** conducting) in paragraph form. This will guide you as you write up your proposal.

**To set up your proposal:**

* **Double space**
* Title your proposal; include all researchers’ names
* Use each of the **BOLD** questions/statements below as a heading in your proposal.

EX. **Literature Review**:

 **Importance of topic** – Under this heading, write your paragraph/s

 **Summary of research** - Under this heading, write your paragraph/s

 **Hypothesis** – Under this heading, write your paragraph/s

 **Operational definitions** – Under this heading, write your paragraph/s, etc.

 **Literature Review:**

1. **Research Question** – A question to guide your research
2. **Importance of topic**: Why is your topic important or interesting?
3. **Summary of research**: Summarize and cite your research, Connection of the topic to one or more psychological approaches…i.e. Biopsychosocial, Behaviorist, Cognitive, Psychodynamic/analytic…etc.
4. **Hypothesis**: What is your hypothesis? Why do you think this is true?
5. **Operational definitions**: Operationally define all key terms in your hypothesis.

**Method:** A step-by-step description of your research plan including (but not limited to):

1. **Variables**: Define your variables in a study; identify independent and dependent variables in an experiment. How will you measure these variables (op defs)?
2. **Measurement:** Describe how you will measure your variables.
3. **Selection**: How will you select your participants/subjects? If you are designing an experiment, how will you determine and place subjects in the experimental group and the control group?
4. **Bias**: How will you reduce experimenter bias?
5. **Controls**: How will you control for confounding variables?
6. **Procedure:** Step by step description of your research plan, including materials needed
7. **Informed consent**: How will you ensure participants/subjects have been informed and agree?

 **Discussion:**

1. **Outcome**: What do you predict will happen if your research were really conducted? Why?
2. **Ethical concerns**: Describe how you would deal with ethical concerns pertaining to your research.

**References:** In APA style- see examples on the next page

**How to do your references page:**

Books:

Strachey J. (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 19, pp. 3-66). London: Hogarth Press

Original source found in a current source (e.g. older studies cited in a newer book)

Freud, S. (1961). The ego and the id. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 19, pp. 3-66). London: Hogarth Press

Anonymous or unknown author (common in newspapers):

Caffeine linked to mental illness. (1991, July 13). *New York Times*, pp. B13, B15.

World Wide Web page:

Bixley, T. S. (1995) Sentient microfilaments Home Page.[On-line]. Available: http://www.microfilaments.com/consciousness/synchronicity/quantum tube.html.

Group or institutional authors:

University of Pittsburgh. (1993). The title goes here. *Journal of Something*, *8*, 5-9.

## Journal article:

Guenzel, Nick (1996, Autumn) Altruism in Three States. *Whitman Journal of Psychology*, (*5)*1, 67-73

Letter to the editor:

O'Neill, G. W. (1992, January). In support of DSM-III [Letter to the editor]. *APA Monitor*, p. 4-5.

Magazine article:

Gardner, H. (1991, December). Do babies sing a universal song? *Psychology Today*, pp. 70-76.

Newsletter article:

Brown, L.S. (1993, Spring). My research with orangs. *The Psychology Department Newsletter*, pg.3

Pamphlet:

Just Say No Foundation. (1992). Saving our youth. (9th ed.) [Brochure]. Washington, DC: Author