

IT 500

Research Proposal
Dr. Russell Morton

Opening

- See my home page at <http://personal.ashland.edu/rmorton2> under “Courses” under IT500 for power point presentation. It is also available on ANGEL.
- Review the presentation on using the catalog and databases as well as this one, since acquaintance with the catalog and databases will help you complete this assignment.

You will need the following

- Title page.
- Research question.
- Bibliography.
- We will examine the example of a research proposal, as found in your syllabus for examples of these elements.

Title page

- Must be included.
- It is not numbered.
 - In Windows 2007, go to “Page Layout.” Click “Page Set up.” Click the tab reading “Layout.” In the display box, click “Different first page.”
 - Title page must follow format found in the Writing Manual.

The First Page

- Paragraph introducing your topic, “Calling” or “Character” – and the selected scripture along with the description of your research.
- Paragraph describing your research question.
- The Research question.
- The final paragraph describes the significance of the research question for your ministry context.

Focusing the argument

- 1st paragraph discusses the problem to be addressed.
 - The purpose is to refine question.
 - The subject area must be narrowed down.
 - Remember the three most important words for a paper:
Focus, focus, focus.
- The second paragraph further defines problem.
- At the end of this process is the research question.

The Research Question

- Must be a simple sentence.
- Avoid paratactic constructions.
 - A paratactic construction is a sentence containing the word “and.”
 - The presence of the word “and” creates two questions.
 - The result is an unfocused paper.

Final paragraph

- This paragraph contains the significance of your research question for your ministry context.
 - See example in Research Sample in Angel.
 - The example here is how the study of John's calling influences our own understanding of being called by the resurrected Christ.

Bibliography

- Must contain all elements required.
 - Two journal articles (see the second and third items in the bibliography).
 - One research commentary.
 - See my homepage under NT511 Preliminary Bibliography for examples.
 - Also, contact me for how to find research commentaries.
 - See the first entry as an example of a commentary.
 - One article from a specialized dictionaries and encyclopedias (see the last item, an article from the Anchor Bible Dictionary).
 - Two scholarly books that are not commentaries(see the fourth and fifth items).

Bibliography

- Use Turabian Style
 - Either humanities or reference list style.
 - You must be consistent.
 - Trying to combine styles will result in loss of points

On Footnotes

- This assignment is only a research proposal.
- For the research proposal, you do not need to footnote.
- Remember, however, to footnote a research paper.
- Three pages are required for the research proposal.
 - Title page.
 - A one page proposal, double spaced, typed in Turabian format.
 - Bibliography with six sources as cited in the syllabus.

Final notes

- Proofread your proposal
- You will need to contact the Research Librarian when formulating your proposal.
- The Research Librarian may be contacted:
 - Russell Morton
 - Phone: 419-289-5434
 - Email: rmorton2@ashland.edu
 - Web page: <http://personal.ashland.edu/rmorton2>