**Sociology Honors Program Thesis Proposal**

Dear Sociology Honors Program Applicant,

Your acceptance in the SHP is based on your academic record (including a faculty recommendation), as well as your research proposal. Proposals should be approximately 2-pages in length. Your proposal will be evaluated on the basis of its quality and viability. A good proposal will be well-thought out and clearly articulated (i.e. well-written). It should make the case for the importance of your topic, and demonstrate how your study might go beyond existing research. It should also be realistic in scope with feasible methods proposed. (e.g. If you are proposing interviewing or surveying a particular population, you should have a plan for accessing that population.) Both qualitative and quantitative (and mixed-methods) projects are welcome!

While we are looking for well-designed proposals, students who are accepted into the program will be mentored to help you further conceptualize and revise your original proposal. Your proposal does not have to be complete or perfect—just a strong start! If accepted into the program, you may also decide to change your research question between the time you are accepted and the start of the fall semester, so long as this is done in consultation with the faculty instructor.

Please use the questions below to structure your proposal. Email your completed proposal to [Kerry.Woodward@csulb.edu](mailto:Kerry.Woodward@csulb.edu) (.doc format preferred).

In addition to this proposal, be sure to fill out the application, which is available on our webpage: <http://www.cla.csulb.edu/departments/sociology/honors-program/>. Due by the end of March, 2022. (Email me if you want to apply after that date.)

Dr. Kerry Woodward

Honors Program Director

Last Name, First Name:

Campus ID#

Email address:

**Project title:**

1. **What do you want to study?** Be detailed and descriptive. Include relevant background information or context. (Cite your sources!) State your proposed research question.
2. **Why do you want to study it, and what makes you qualified to pursue this topic?** Describe your interests/motivations behind pursuing this topic. Draw from your professional, education, and personal experience, as relevant.
3. **What is your proposed methodology?** How will you answer your research question? What research method(s) are you likely to pursue? Examples: surveys, interviews, focus groups, experiments, archival research, content analysis, etc. Have you taken the appropriate upper division methods course for your proposed method (or will you during Fall 2022)? Be detailed. Be realistic.
4. **Reference List**