

Research Paper Outline

The essay topic should link your institution to a particular issue or event or trend in what the organization is doing. It is up to you to determine a way to analyse the connection in the context of the themes and issues of the course.

I am open to other topics. You must have them approved by me **before** you submit your outline.

Requirements for the outline

In 2-3 paragraphs, the outline needs to indicate your choice of topic and describe the way you are going to analyse the topic. Define key terms if that makes sense for what you are doing. For example, if you were looking at the UN and using sanctions you should define sanctions. It might also make sense to indicate the time frame covered by your topic. The proposal (outline) is the time to make those kinds of decisions.

Indicate what the analysis will tell us about *the organization* (as distinct from the issue) in question and international organizations generally.

The goal of the proposal is to ensure you have a viable topic – one that makes sense analytically and is doable. Provide as much information as needed to support that goal.

For example –the topic of the EU and Brexit has any number of ways in which it could be analysed in relation to the material of the course. Choose one way and describe how you will go about it and what that particular analysis will tell us about the EU.

Provide a preliminary bibliography. This is to ensure you are looking at the right types of sources, have found the key sources you will need to get started, and give me a chance to provide support by suggesting further sources or alternative paths to useful sources.

Provide the outline in as professional a manner as possible. A title page is not needed, however.