

April 9, 2008 EGSO Workshop

Writing a Proposal for the American Educational Research Association (AERA)

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1. Read "Call for Proposals" carefully. See what the conference theme is. Try to embrace the theme in your proposal. A Call for Proposals for AERA is usually published on the website (www.aera.net) in May of each year.
2. Prepare a summary of 2,000 words or fewer (without references) of your study. About 9 to 10 pages (double spaced).
3. Submit your proposal electronically. Submission Deadline is either July 31 or August 1, sometimes August 2 of each year.
4. Your proposal should include:
 - 1) **Objectives or Purposes:** Provide a brief background or rationale for your research, and clearly state what the purpose of your paper is including your research questions. Discuss how your research fits the theme.
 - 2) **Perspective(s) or theoretical framework:** Do a thorough and substantive literature review on your research topic. Discuss your theoretical framework. Show your understanding of what has been done before and what they imply. Show your ability to analyze and synthesize existing literature, which will allow you to provide a new perspective.
 - 3) **Methods, techniques, or modes of inquiry:** Discuss your data collection methods, e.g., observation, interviews, documents, surveys, etc. Discuss your methodology, e.g., narrative inquiry, phenomenology, or case study, action research, or...?
 - 4) **Data Sources or evidence:** Provide a discussion of your data analysis using evidence from your data. Provide salient, important data that are pertinent to your research questions.
 - 5) **Results and/or conclusions/point of view:** Discuss your findings carefully and thoroughly by revisiting the literature review while providing a new perspective. Discuss implications of your study or recommendations for educators.
 - 6) **Educational or scientific importance of the study:** Discuss the significance of your study including how your study can contribute to the literature. Revisit the conference theme and how your proposal is tied into the theme.

AERA 2009 Monday, April 13 - Friday, April 17 San Diego, CA.