

Guidelines For Project Research Question Assignment (Due 2/1)

- 1) Project Topic or Broad Question: about 100 words

What is the broader topic or question? Say a little bit about why you think this is an interesting or important topic. Remember that this is NOT your research question.

- 2) Research Question: about 100 words

What is your **main** research question? Make sure there is something about a specific organization, small subset of organizations, or a population of organizations somewhere in your research question.

Briefly say how answering your research question gives us some insight into the broader topic or question from the first question.

- 3) More Specific Questions: about 50-100 words

Come up with at least three questions that are more specific than, but help you answer, your main research question. One way to come up with these questions is to think about the four processes (variation, selection, retention, and struggle) from chapter 2 of *Organizations Evolving*.

- 4) Something Other Than a Paper?

The project does not have to be a traditional paper. If you do write a paper, the final version will be about 2,000-2,500 words, and you don't have to write anything in this section. If you want to do something other than a paper (even if you are just considering it), propose to me what you would like to do. Please also tell me whether you have, in the past, done what you are proposing or how much experience you have with what you are proposing.

Total number of words: no more than 450 words.

Notes:

- 1) Please print out a copy of your paper and turn it in Friday, February 1st in class. Remember to put your name and date at the top.
- 2) You can divide your paper into the four subsections, but only use prose (no bullet points).
- 3) Use "standard English." Avoid stilted language. Remember that the *The Elements of Style* (full citation in the syllabus) is a great resource.
- 4) There is no need for fancy formatting.
- 5) You don't need citations or a reference section for this assignment.