

Mellon/ACLS Community College Faculty Fellowships Sample Proposal Outline*

I. Introduction

This section could be a vignette, a broad overview of your topic, a reference to a current issue that relates to your project, or some other way of grabbing the reader's attention and introducing your topic.

II. Argument

This section should lay out your project's argument clearly and with minimal jargon.

III. Background, significance, and relationship to other bodies of scholarship

This section should give a bit more background on your topic and should discuss how your project relates to other work that has been done in your field. It is important to articulate your project's significance both within your field/discipline and for the humanities more broadly.

IV. Methodology and research plan

This section should discuss your research methods and approach. You may also use this section to discuss the logistics of your research plan, including any work you have already completed on the project.

V. Outcomes

This section should discuss both what you have done so far as well as your project's outcomes—what do you plan to produce by the end of the fellowship period? What more work do you plan to complete after the fellowship period has ended? Reviewers will be interested in what you plan to produce, how and when you plan to complete the work, and the feasibility of your plans.

VI. Conclusion

*This outline suggests one possible way of organizing your proposal. The proposal itself should be in paragraph form, and may be one continuous narrative or divided into sections with headings. Proposals should be no more than three double-spaced pages, in 11-point, Times New Roman font.