ANTHROPOLOGY THESIS PROSPECTUS

REQUIREMENTS:

• The thesis prospectus must be developed with the graduate committee.
• All graduate committee members must sign their approval of the prospectus.
• The original signed prospectus is placed in the student’s department final and a copy is given to all committee members.
• The style used will be American Anthropological Association or other standard style in Anthropology approved by the thesis committee.
• Not all projects will be the same, so the following section outline and estimated page length is a guideline only. Students should meet with their thesis chair prior to starting work on the prospectus to determine the exact format and length necessary for their particular thesis prospectus.

SECTIONS:

Part 1. General and Specific Statement of Research Problem (est. length ca. 1.5 pages double spaced)
• This section should provide an overview of the thesis project and serve as an introductory section.

Part 2. History and Definition of Problem, Background Information, Orientation (est. length ca. 3 pages double spaced)
• This section should provide background of the concepts or ideas being studied, the questions being answered, theoretical background, or anything else that is pertinent to the specific thesis prospectus.

Part 3. Study, Area, Data Domain, and/or Population (est. length ca. 2 pages double spaced)
• This section should provide information on your particular project, the area or people that you are studying, the artifacts you are looking at, the physical location of the site, or anything else that is pertinent to the specific thesis prospectus.

Part 4. Methods, Schedule, etc. (est. length ca. 3 pages double spaced)
• This section should contain information on how you are going to conduct your research, the methods you are going to use, statistics you plan to use, or any information about how you are going to actually conduct your thesis project or research.

Part 5. Significance of Study (est. length ca. 1 pages double spaced)
• This section should explain why your study is significant, why it is an important line of research to conduct, and generally, why this thesis work should be done.

Part 6. Timeline and Chapter outline
• This section should provide a brief outline of your timetable for completing your work, as well as a general outline of the chapters that you intend to have in your thesis.

Part 7. Bibliography
• Provide a bibliography of the sources used to prepare your thesis prospectus or any other relevant sources to your thesis project.