

Guidelines for the Analytical Paper Proposal

Master's in Marine Policy

9-18-2013

Due: Before your 3rd semester

Signatures: Committee members and Associate Director for Marine Policy must approve your proposal on your Student Progress Report. Your major advisor may or may not require an oral defense or the proposal.

Advisor Input: It is important to work with your advisor through the proposal process. He/she will provide guidance on length, content, etc. Use the outline below as a basic framework, which may be adjusted as you and your advisor see fit.

Length: Usually between 2250 to 4500 words for the body of the proposal suffices (see Advisor Input above).

Examples: Examples of past proposals will be post on the MP Seminar web site.

Outline for Analytical Paper (AP) Proposal:

Title - Propose a title. It may be changed before final submission.

Your Name - Full name.

Date - Date of proposal submission

Background/Introduction - Set the stage for your paper. What is the policy issue surrounding your topic? Why is it important?

Purpose - State the purpose of your paper. If there is a specific research question, state it. If there are specific hypotheses, state these. Be clear, concise, and analytical.

Approach/Method - Present your approach, method, data, etc. How will you answer your research question?

Reference List - List key references and highlight 5 most important

Coauthor - Your advisor may or may not allow coauthors. If yes, list coauthors (expected or confirmed) by name and state their roles relative to yours. You must be the primary author.

Target Journals - List two target journals. Provide the URLs for the (a) aim and scope and (b) guidelines for submission for each journal

Tasks - List tasks leading to completion of paper (eg., literature review, data collection, etc.).

Due dates - Report target dates for submitting paper outline, 1st draft, final draft, and defense. These are goals.

Committee Composition - List committee members and denote major advisor.

Notes for Analytical Paper Proposal: