

### STAR Application Rubric: Humanities

Score	5 Outstanding	4 Very good	3 Satisfactory	2 Fair	1 Unsatisfactory
Likelihood of achieving proposed outcomes (from mentor statement)	Project is extremely likely to achieve proposed outcomes based on high student preparation and strong faculty mentoring plan	Project is quite likely to achieve proposed outcomes, with student having good preparation and faculty have a reasonable mentoring plan	Project will probably achieve proposed outcomes, but with some concerns about student preparation and/or faculty mentoring plan	Project may achieve proposed outcomes, but significant concerns about student preparation and/or faculty mentoring plan	Project is unlikely to achieve proposed outcomes, with the student preparation and faculty mentoring plan both being unsatisfactory
Research Topic, Question, and Objectives	Topic, question, and objectives are clearly articulated and realistically framed.	Topic, question, and objectives are articulated with potential for future refinement.	Topic, question, and objectives are suggested in a preliminary manner, but require some refinement now.	Topic, question, and objectives are offered but require significant clarifications.	Topic, question, and objectives are incompletely articulated.
Literature Review	Proposal succinctly summarizes relevant scholarly literature and conversations in the fields.	Proposal succinctly summarizes some relevant scholarly literature and conversations in the fields.	Proposal identifies some relevant scholarly literature and conversations in the fields.	Proposal shows little familiarity with relevant scholarly literature and conversations in the fields.	Proposal does not demonstrate familiarity with existing scholarly literature or conversations in the fields.
Rationale	Proposal superbly demonstrates the relevance and original contribution	Proposal offers a good demonstration of relevance and original contribution	Proposal identifies the project's relevance but the original contribution needs further explanation.	Proposal is unclear on the relevance and original contribution of proposed research.	Proposal provides significantly limited explanation of the relevance and original

	of proposed research.	of proposed research.			contribution of proposed research.
Source Base	Proposal fully describes an excellent source base and fully addresses access issues, if not available at USD.	Proposal describes some of its source base and proposes possible solutions to access issues, if not available at USD.	Proposal points toward sources but incompletely answers questions about their expected availability and access.	Proposal incompletely assesses its potential source base and/or underestimates access issues.	Proposal does not address a clear source base and/or does not indicate how non-USD materials will be accessed.
Methods	Proposal includes excellent understanding and concrete description of appropriate methodology, and addresses any needed special skills.	Proposal includes good understanding and concrete description of appropriate methodology, and addresses any needed special skills.	Proposal addresses appropriate methodology but shows limited understanding of it and/or does not address special skills needed.	Proposal describes appropriate methodology vaguely and inaccurately; it may also fail to address any special skills needed.	Proposal lacks an appropriate methodology or represents it faultily; it may also fail to address any special skills needed.
Anticipated Outcomes	Proposal fully describes the anticipated final product and has concrete plans for dissemination.	Proposal mostly describes the anticipated final product and plans for dissemination.	Proposal partly describes the anticipated final product and plans for dissemination.	Proposal vaguely describes the anticipated final product and plans for dissemination.	Proposal lacks description of the anticipated final product and plans for dissemination.
Timeline and Structure (from faculty-submitted timeline)	Proposal presents an excellently organized and highly achievable timeline for both the project and	Proposal presents a good and workable timeline for both the project and its constitutive	Proposal presents a decent timeline for the project but still needs realistic and manageable planning for	Proposal presents an unclear and unrealistic timeline for the project and its	Proposal fails to provide an acceptable timeline for the project and its constitutive components

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Approved by Humanities STAR-BURST Committee – 11 December 2023