The image above depicts the “steamroller of progress” crushing the opposition in the fight for equal rights for women. (March 17, 1917)

What is the point of a Research Proposal? Why write one? Well, for starters, you’ll have to do it in college ALL THE TIME. Aside from that though, there are other reasons why a Research Proposal is a valuable use of your time: 1) A Research Proposal helps you organize your preliminary thoughts and guide your upcoming research, so the research part and the writing part become much easier. 2) It helps me give you feedback about your work BEFORE you get to the big part of heavy research and writing the paper. This will only benefit you in the long run.

Did you get all that? Write what you read above in your own words below. You can use bullet points if you’d like:
Guidelines for Research Proposal:

A Research Proposal should have five sections. See below for the main questions you will answer in each of the sections. Do not think of this as being a full 5-paragraph essay. Some of the paragraphs will be longer or shorter than others. For a sample, see the work on the next page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section 1 ~5-7 sentences</th>
<th>1. Summarize your preliminary research: what have you found that has created the questions you want to ask?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Section 2 Questions + 3-5 sentences | 2. What question(s) do you plan to investigate and hope to make a claim about in this paper?  
   a. Are there any other sub-questions do you need to answer in order to answer your lead question(s)?  
   3. What makes these questions worth pursuing to you, and to others? |
| Section 3 ~7-10 sentences | 4. What kind of expert would be able to provide good answers, or the current best thinking about possible answers? What voices need to be heard to answer your question?  
   5. What sources have you found so far, if any?  
   6. Where (what type of sources) do you expect to find good information about this subject?  
   7. How recent, or how old, must materials be to be relevant? What factors might make information outdated? |
| Section 4 ~5-7 sentences | 8. What individuals or interest groups have a major stake in answering your question in a particular way?  
   9. What kind of bias do you need to be especially alert for? |
| Section 5 ~ 4 words or phrases | 10. What words or phrases might be useful for some initial searching? |
Research Proposal Sample: Please follow the formatting that you see below.

Ms. Grimaldi
Topic: Iran and United States Nuclear Deal

Section One:
The Iranian Nuclear deal basically comes down to a simple trade: Iran agrees to limit Tehran’s nuclear ability in return for the United States lifting international oil and financial sanctions. Iran has agreed to transform its deeply buried plant at Fordo into a center for science research. Another uranium plant, Natanz, is to be cut back rather than shut down. Some 5,000 centrifuges for enriching uranium will remain spinning there, about half the current number.

In addition, in this deal being brokered between Iran and the major world players, there are clear undertones of distrust, disrespect, and doubt in the goodwill of each country. Iran's president called the United States “backstabbers” in an interview about the nuclear deal, and Israel's Prime Minister claimed that “the Iranians cannot be trusted.” I want to know more about where this negativity stemmed from, and how much of it could have been prevented. In addition, I want to know to what extent this distrust prevents our global community from actually working together. So, my guiding research questions are as follows:

Section Two:

My main research questions, and sub-questions are:

1) **What is the history of Iranian and U.S. political negotiations?**
   a. Has this history influenced our current interactions in a positive or negative way?

2) **How do political and religious differences between the U.S. and Iran play a role in our relationship?**

3) **What relationship does Iran have with other nations?**
   a. What can be learned from these relationships?

To me, these questions are worth pursuing for the simple purpose of understanding diplomacy, and how to best create and maintain relationships with other countries. We live in a global society, and if we do not have a clear sense of how to successfully work together, our ability to create a peaceful world is seriously compromised.

Section Three:

It will be important for me to have sources from multiple sides of the debate. Reputable news organizations in America like: The New York Times, TIME Magazine, NPR, BBC, etc. will be crucial to my understanding of the issue. However, I’ll also need to see evidence from a non-American perspective. If I’m able, I’ll try to see how Iranian newspapers write about the debate. Or, listen to speeches given by Iranian leaders, in order to understand their perspective.

In order to understand the history of the two nations’ relationship I’ll need to do some historical research, and perhaps The Library of Congress could give me a good place to start.
The type of source I hope to use is media and textbook for understanding the historical information, and then speeches or letters relevant to the debate. Materials would have to be fairly recent because this is a present day issue, although in terms of learning about the history of the countries, evidence could be slightly older. I will try to shoot for sources not earlier than 2000.

**Section Four:**

Of course, a source from either side of the debate will present an individual bias, which is why I need to have evidence that is from the American perspective and the Iranian. Sources that I think I should stay away from are the ones that express a strongly democratic or strongly republican bias because from what I’ve seen they are not as accurate with facts.

I need to be careful when reviewing sources from the leaders of the United States and Iran because these could hold a substantial bias, in favor of the leader’s country. I need to be on the alert for a bias in TOTAL favor of one political ideal OVER another, or with the idea that one country is superior to the other.

**Section Five:**

Some initial search terms could be: Iranian history, Nuclear Deal with Iran, Iran and Israel, Iran and the United States.