

## Dissertation Prospectus Evaluation Rubric

Beyond Expectations	Meets Expectations	Below Expectations
Exceptionally strong background and skills for the proposed dissertation.	Student has the necessary background and skills for the proposed dissertation	Weak or insufficient background and skills for the proposed dissertation.
Prospectus demonstrates that proposed project will make an unusually important or original contribution to historical knowledge.	Prospectus demonstrates that proposed project will make a significant and original contribution to historical knowledge.	Does not make sufficiently clear the project's contribution to historical knowledge.
Prospectus is exceptionally clear about its research topic and what questions and problems the work proposes to address and answer.	Prospectus clearly states the topics of the proposed research and what questions and problems the work proposes to address and answer.	Prospectus does not state sufficiently clearly the topic of the proposed research and what questions and problems the work proposes to address and answer.
Makes an unusually strong case for how the proposed work develops, challenges, or departs from past research.	Makes clear how the proposed work develops, challenges, or departs from past research.	Does not make sufficiently clear how the proposed work develops, challenges, or departs from past research.
Demonstrates student's extraordinary command of the historiography and the present state of the field.	Demonstrates that the student has a sufficient and critical command of the historiography and the present state of the field.	Does not demonstrate sufficient and critical command of the historiography and the present state of the field.
Demonstrates an exceptional command of languages, methodologies, and theories to be used.	Makes clear the languages, methodologies, and theories to be used.	Does not make sufficiently clear the languages, methodologies, and theories to be used.
Discovery of new or little-known sources to be used or proposes new methods of analyzing known sources.	Identifies the sources to be used and their locations.	Does not adequately identify sources to be used and their locations.
Outline of chapters provides an exceptionally clear sense of the work's overall plan and structure.	Outline of chapters provides some sense of the work's overall plan and structure.	Outline of chapters does not provide a clear sense of the work's overall plan and structure.
Provides an unusually clear schedule of time to complete the various aspects of research, travel to collections, writing, and revisions.	Tentative schedule in the prospectus estimates how much time the various aspects of research, travel to collections, writing, and revision will take.	Unclear or unrealistic schedule o various aspects of research, travel to collections, writing, and revisions.

Comments: