

APPENDIX D

DISSERTATION PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

The Dissertation Proposal Structure

An Anthropology and Social Change dissertation proposal is to contain the following elements:

1 Title Page

- Title and subtitle
- Student name, address, phone, email
- Committee members' names and academic affiliations
- California Institute of Integral Studies address
- Date

2 Abstract (350 words maximum, which is a UMI requirement)

3 Table of Contents of the Proposal

4 Introduction

- presentation of the subject and thesis statement, the main inquiry question(s), and
- objective of the study.
- a brief overview of the topic's theoretical and historical context, establishing *why* this is
- a compelling, interesting topic to pursue
- definition of key terms
- scope of the study
- limits of the study
- Significance of the Study: academic, social, spiritual, and personal

5 Literature Review (literature review)-

- provides a theoretical and historical context for the proposed study; defines
- what will be primary sources for the study.

6 Methodology Chapter (theoretical tools)-

a statement of the research methodology(ies) you will use (empirical, theoretical, or qualitative) to explore the subject; this might entail a combination of methods that are appropriate to empirical, conceptual, or theoretical subjects. (Note: as our students mostly do ethnographic research, be sure to elaborate a careful Research Design that will meet the requirements of CIIS's HRRC.)

7 Annotated Table of Contents of the proposed dissertation chapters-

A Table of Contents with a brief summary of each chapter that will be in the proposed dissertation

8 Footnotes (not endnotes)

9 Research Bibliography (the most significant works that will be used, arranged according to

topical headings identified in the Literature Review).

10 A Proposed Timeline for Completion-

Please consider the following steps:

- conducting ethnographic research and writing the dissertation
- circulating successive drafts to your Chair and then the rest of the committee
- revising and re-circulating a complete draft
- the Technical Review Editing process
- the application for graduation
- the defense
- meeting Institute dates for graduation
- include the probable semester of graduation

Note: be sure to allow sufficient time for the circulating of your drafts to your committee, especially the final draft, leaving time for any revisions.

11 Student's self-evaluation of proposal, using the *SCT Proposal Rubric*