**Proposing a Topic for Your Essay**

**Academic Proposals**

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. The topic proposal must be typed, and it should be numbered as it is below. The topic proposal counts as a short writing assignment.

1. What is the topic you will address in your essay?
2. How will you prove there is a problem that requires a solution?
3. What is your proposed solution? How is this solution feasible? In other words, how exactly will your course of action work?
4. What are some of the sources you will use to support your claim? How will you convince your audience to pursue your course of action? What are some opposing viewpoints you will address?
5. What are the consequences of doing nothing?
6. What questions do you have at this point?

### Literature Essay Proposal

1. What are the strongest rhetorical appeals that come to mind when you think about your story?
2. What are some of the short stories from the course that may be comparable to your story?
3. Are there any other works of fiction aside from those of this course that might work better?
4. What type of research would be best for you: Criticism of the short story you choose, information on the biography of the author, an analysis of short stories in general, information on the subjects represented in your story? Something else? Why?
5. What questions do you have at this point?

### Three Perspectives

1. What is the topic you have chosen? How do you plan on making your topic as specific as possible?
2. What is the benefit of narrowing your area of focus?
3. How might you avoid the one extreme / other extreme / middle-of-the road structure?
4. What is the importance of your analysis?
5. What larger issues / future issues might your analysis lead to?
6. What questions do you have at this point?