

ASEM 2420  
**THE CULTURED APE**  
Spring 2016

**Research Paper Prospectus**

The Research Paper Prospectus identifies the topic that you're working on, explains why the topic is important and why you find the topic interesting, and describes how you're researching the topic. In other words, it should provide a "peek behind the curtain" of your thinking and research process. It is essentially an update of the ground that you've covered, where you are, and what remains to be finished.

This should be a *first-person narrative account of your thinking process* while researching the topic that you've chosen to write about. If the topic relates to something in your personal history, feel free to divulge as much information about that as you're comfortable with. If you're having trouble focusing the topic so that you don't get lost in a sea of information, you should say so. You may include a brief discussion of the sources that you're working with (i.e., a bit of an annotated bibliography).

**The Prospectus is due on Wednesday, May 11. Expected length is 3-4 pages. The usual formatting requirements apply.**