

## **2017 Research Week Proposal Instructions and Template** **Posters and Presentations**

### **Research Proposal Instructions**

Write a concise summary of the key points of your research. This proposal needs to represent your research well as it could be used as part of the judging criteria during the event. Your proposal should contain a strong literature review or introduction to your research topic, hypothesis or research questions, methods, results, and conclusions. You should also include possible implications of your research and future work you see connected with your findings. Your abstract should be a single paragraph double-spaced. Your abstract should be ***between 250 and 500 words***. The second paragraph should address how your research is informed by a Christian worldview. **In 250-500 words**, describe how your Christian worldview has informed your research design and communication of your results.

When submitting your proposal, please use the template (proposal sample) provided below.

### **Proposal Sample**

**Title** - Living In Light of Armageddon: W.A. Criswell, Communism, and The Cold War

**Program of Study** – Religious Studies

**Presentation Type** – **Choose one of the following:** PowerPoint, Print Poster, Digital Poster, PowerPoint (Remote)

**Mentor(s) and Mentor Email** - Dr. James Doe (jdoe@liberty.edu)

**Student name(s) and email(s)** - John Doe (jdoe2@liberty.edu)

**Category** – **Choose one of the following:** Experimental (Basic), Experimental (Applied), Experimental (Theoretical), Textual, Creative/Artistic. See category descriptions for more information and examples from previous research symposia.

**Abstract example:** This paper examines the eschatological views of W.A. Criswell, and their impact on conservative Southern Baptist thought throughout the 1960s. The 1960s was a tumultuous period for the Southern Baptist Convention. W.A. Criswell served as president of the convention for two consecutive terms. His writings and ministry offer a representation of the mentality of Southern Baptist pastors during the 1960s. This case study fills a void by examining W.A. Criswell with no intentions to criticize his eschatology or evangelism tactics, but rather to prove that Criswell's conviction during the early Cold War that Jesus Christ would

physically return to earth soon is what directed Criswell's ministry. This paper focuses on the conditions of the Southern Baptist Convention, and the split into fundamentalists and liberals that occurred in the 1960s. It analyzes the sermons and books of W.A. Criswell in order to establish that average Americans were familiar with Cold War terms. This paper discusses Criswell's ministry at the end of the Cold War to show that he was able to adjust his ministry efforts when Armageddon did not occur. It examines the educational efforts of the SBC in order to demonstrate how gripping the fear of the Cold War was. Criswell's conviction during the early Cold War that the apocalypse was imminent motivated his ministry. W.A. Criswell offers a representation of Southern Baptist ministers and presidents whose actions were compelled by the grim circumstances of the Cold War. The prominence of W.A. Criswell and his congregation allows historians to view his ministry and draw conclusions regarding Southern Baptists as a whole. The fear and imminent doom of the Cold War gripped Criswell, and his distress influenced his ministry throughout the 1960s.

**Christian worldview integration:** In 250-500 words, describe how your Christian worldview has informed your research design and communication of your results. How is your research impactful within the culture at large?