Purpose: The purpose of this assignment is to learn how to being an original research project proposal. There are several steps that will need to be included in the proposal. The final draft of the proposal should be very detailed and well thought out as if to being the research project.

Parts of the Research Proposal:

1. Research Goals - What problem(s) will the study address, and why is it important to address this (if this isn't obvious)? What intellectual, practical, or personal goals will this study attempt to accomplish? A well thought out purpose and rational for the study should be present here.

2. Conceptual Framework - What are the most important theories, ideas, and knowledge (personal as well as research) that inform this study? How have these shaped the study? What do we not know that your study will address? What does the current literature say about the variables you are researching?

3. Research Questions - The proposal should have at a minimum three research questions or hypotheses that you will answer through your study. The research questions should identify all the variables you are using and involve multiple types of statistical procedures to answer.

4. Sites and Participant Selection - What setting(s) will you study, and/or what individuals will you include in your study? How will you get participants to participate in your study? What type of sample will you be using? How will you protect your participants' identity and well being (include IRB proposal).

5. Data Collection - How do you plan to collect your data, and what data will you collect? How will these data enable you to answer your research questions? Include all survey instruments that were utilized in your study.

6. Data Analysis - What strategies and techniques will you use to make sense of your data? Why have you chosen these? Specifically indicate the kinds of analyses you plan to do for each individual research question.

7. Validity - What do you see as the most important potential threats to the validity of your conclusions? What will you do to address these? What limitations on generalizability do you see?
Product: The final proposal should include all 7 steps addressed specifically as stated above. The proposal will also include your IRB proposal and your survey instrument. In addition a 20-source bibliography of relevant sources you would consult for the review of literature should be included.