

White Paper

WRIT 0590: Module 4.1

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Whitepaper writing workflow

Five key steps towards a proposal:

- ▶ Identifying **a topic**
- ▶ Identifying **a target audience**
- ▶ Finding authoritative **literature**
- ▶ Identifying **the problem**
- ▶ Fleshing out recommendations/solutions

Identifying a topic

Fairness, machine learning, comp social science:

- ▶ AIML in hiring, college admissions
- ▶ AIML in criminal justice, facial recognition
- ▶ AIML in warfare
- ▶ ~~AIML in language models, speech recognition~~

Identifying a topic

Language/culture endangerment, language death, minority culture

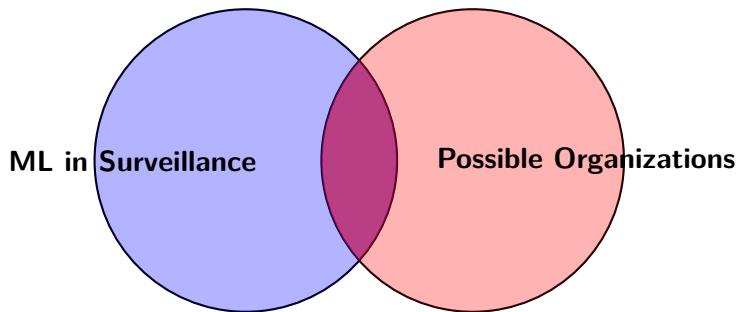
- ▶ Core language revitalization
- ▶ Marketing and language/culture
- ▶ Technology and language/culture
- ▶ Education and language/culture

Identifying an audience

Four types of audiences:

- ▶ A policy-heavy white paper should target government agencies and advocacy groups.
- ▶ A technical white paper should appeal to engineers, researchers, and industry leaders.
- ▶ A social justice-oriented white paper should be readable for journalists, nonprofits, and activists.
- ▶ A business-focused white paper should cater to executives, investors, and corporate decision-makers.

Venn Diagram: Topics and Audiences



Identifying literature

For starters, we'll need five sources (first draft: 5, final draft: over 10 sources).

- ▶ **Date range:** 2010–present
- ▶ **Citations:** 10 or more on Google Scholar
- ▶ **Source type:** Peer-reviewed

Why do you want to include this source?

- ▶ Why this paper? (e.g., What gap does it fill?)
- ▶ Key takeaways (summarized in 2-3 bullet points)

Identifying the structure

- ▶ Problem Identification: What issue needs to be addressed?
- ▶ Solution Path: What are the necessary solutions?

Next time

- ▶ I need **six** people.
- ▶ Read two papers for your proposal and parse them into Power Notes.
- ▶ Present the papers coherently in 5–10 minutes.