



# **INTERFUTURE NL**

*Intercultural studies for the future*

## **Project Plan Guide**

The Project Plan is a comprehensive description of the research to be conducted: what is being studied, why is it important and worthwhile to study the issue, and how will the field work be carried out. The plan is an organic, ever-growing and ever-changing entity during the initial stages of the preparation period, but by the month of May it will provide a solid, clearly thought out approach to the contemplated fieldwork. In its final form, the Project Plan consists of all the sections outlined below.

### **Title Page**

- \* Title (underlined and clearly stated, with subtitle if needed for further clarification; should include countries in which the study will occur)
- \* *An InterFuture Project Plan*
- \* Your name, university, mailing address and telephone number
- \* *Advised by* : your advisor's name, title and department
- \* Date of submission

### **1. Introduction**

- \* Explanation of why study of this issue is important, citing previous research to show that this is indeed an issue
- \* Reasons for conducting the study in The Netherlands and in the USA

### **2. Research Question**

- \* A clear and concise statement of the research question and subquestions
- \* Definitions of special terms and terminology used in the study that might not be clear to the general reader

### **3. Background**

- \* A survey of the origins, world historical development, and current status worldwide of the issue under study. For each study locale, discuss the development of the issue and the cultural and environmental factors (historical, political, social, economic, geographical, etc.) that have had or are having an impact on the issue.



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### **4. Research Design**

- \* Describe the conceptual model you are using in your study.
- \* Specify for the research (sub)questions what data you need to answer the question(s), what methods you are going to employ to gather this data (e.g. documentary analysis, interviews, observation), and what procedures you are going to follow for interpretation and analysis of the data.

### **5. Research Hypothesis**

- \* Briefly project possible research outcome in each locale and their significance to your research question. Which of these research outcomes seems most likely to you and why?

### **6. Uses of the study**

- \* Describe what will be done on return to share the findings and experiences, indicating specific individuals, classes, school and community organizations, associations, and institutions you expect will be interested in your work.

### **Appendix A. Research Instruments**

- \* Copies of any questionnaires, surveys, tests, etc.
- \* Interview questions, written up in approximately the order in which they would be asked during an interview; a separate set of interview questions should be written up for each type of interview subject.

### **Appendix B. Pilot Study Report**

- \* The Pilot Study Report will be presented in the form of a research monograph with sections on background, methods, findings and implications for the full intercultural project. It may be very helpful for making comparisons while carrying out the American part of the study. The Pilot Study Report can also be sent to American interview subjects before meeting with them, in order to prepare the stage.

**N.B.** No number of pages is being prescribed for the sections above and for the full Project Plan, but keep in mind that *brevity is beautiful*.



## **Wat is het NUT van het Project Plan (PP)?**

A. In het **voortraject** dient het PP:

- om gedachten te ordenen en toe te spitsen
- om overleg te kunnen voeren met begeleiders/deskundigen
- om overzicht te krijgen over de problematiek
- om het eigenlijke onderzoek voor te bereiden

B. Bij het **begin** van het project dient het PP:

- om het onderzoek werkelijk op te starten
- om steun te verwerven van personen en organisaties
- om verantwoording af te leggen naar financiers, opdrachtgevers, etc.

C. Tijdens de **uitvoering** dient het PP:

- om op het rechte spoor te blijven
- om afwijking mogelijk te maken en te verantwoorden
- om overzicht te houden op de voortgang

D. Bij de **verslaglegging** dient het PP:

- om structuur te geven aan het verslag
- om de vergelijking theorie/praktijk of verwachting/realiteit te kunnen maken

Het Project Plan moet antwoord geven op de volgende vragen:

1. **WAT:** de probleemstelling
2. **WAAROM:** theoretisch, maatschappelijk en persoonlijk
3. **WAAR:** de locatie
4. **HOE:** de middelen en methoden
5. **HOEVEEL:** de afbakening
6. **WANNEER:** de tijdsplanning