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The **Research Theme** data field in ePAWs is used to report activities that are being conducted under Northeastern's major research, teaching, and public service pillars – **Health, Security, and Sustainability.**

While the research theme may be obvious based on the title of the proposal, often it may be more difficult to determine as there may be overlap between or among the themes or it may not easily align with any of the three major themes.

ePAWs now allows for multiple selections and has expanded the **Other** theme category to better capture the nature of sponsored activities conducted by our faculty.

The following information may be helpful in determining the appropriate theme or themes for your proposal:

Health:
Health projects are directed at understanding or improving human health (physical or mental). Examples include:

- Diagnose diseases and find cures;
- Explore the roots of health and illness; and
- Create new drugs and drug-delivery systems.
- ***Keywords and Phrases:*** *Health, mental health, medical, biomedical, disease, etc.; See* *https://medlineplus.gov/encyclopedia.html*

Security:
Security projects are focused on enhancing the safety and avoiding threats to individuals, organizations, communities, as well as technical systems. Examples include:

- Secures devices, systems, and networks across the Internet of Things;
- Detects and combats cyberthreats;
- Provides the defense community advanced materials and technologies; and
- Enhances the preparedness and resilience of systems and communities.
- ***Keywords and Phrases:*** *Security, Cyber security, Threat, Intelligence, etc.; See* *https://irp.fas.org/dni/icd/ics-700-1.pdf*

Sustainability:
Sustainability projects reflect efforts by individuals, businesses, and communities to maintain over time or improve for the long-term programs and resources, in order to meet today's needs

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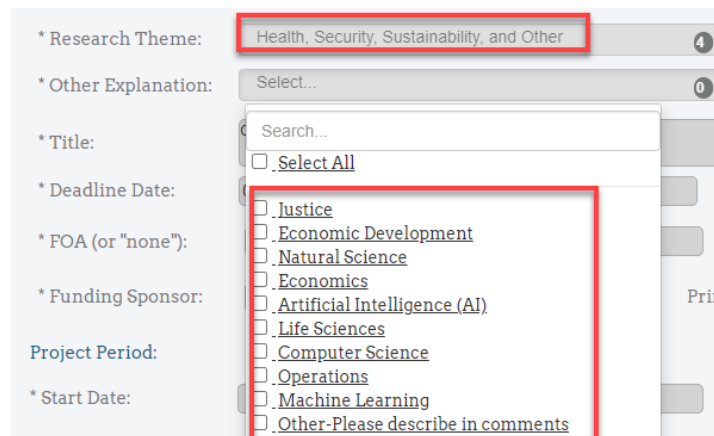
while also remaining available for the benefit of future generations. Sustainability projects have expanded beyond environmental projects to include economic and social justice programs.   Examples include:

- Enhancing the preparedness and resilience of systems and communities; [Note overlap with Security theme.]
- Making infrastructure, such as transportation networks and power grids, more resilient;
- Creating safer coastal communities by mitigating a range of threats, from climate change to plastics pollution; and
- Reducing the threats to individual and communities by promoting human rights, social and economic justice.   [Note may overlap with Health and/or Security themes.]
- ***Keywords and Phrases:*** *Sustainability, Environment Resilience, Resources, etc.; See* [*https://earthshiftglobal.com/sustainability-terms*](https://earthshiftglobal.com/sustainability-terms)

Other

A project may not necessarily align/fit directly under Health, Security, or Sustainability or, alternatively, may be further identified by a sub-category under Other. The following are available selections; and are multi-select:

If you select "Other – Please describe in comments," you must further articulate your project's primary goal in the ePAWs comments box.