

Research Proposal Guidelines for Internship Practicum Reports, Theses and Dissertations

A research proposal for internship practicum reports, thesis or dissertation should include the information listed below. Doctoral students whose departments utilize the NIH grant as the research proposal should follow departmental guidelines for preparing the grant.

- I. **Summary:** Provide one or two paragraphs which describe what the research project will do and how it will be conducted.

- II. **Problem/Hypothesis:** Provide one or two paragraphs listing the seminal observations which lead one to the STATED problem or hypothesis.

- III. **Significance:** Provide one paragraph which describes why the project is important.

- IV. **Background:** For a thesis or dissertation, provide a review of the salient literature which directly supports or opposes the state hypothesis. For a PILOT, provide a review of the recent observations or opposing arguments which support the larger review of the problem or methods development.

- V. **Research Design and Methodology:**
 - ◆ Present clearly and concisely the research design and proposal statistical analysis
 - ◆ Describe the data to be collected
 - ◆ Describe methods, data collection and sampling techniques to be employed
 - ◆ Describe briefly any new methods or tools which will be developed
 - ◆ Describe briefly any populations which will be sampled
 - ◆ Describe briefly any data bases which will be sampled

- VI. **Limitations:** Describe any key factors which will limit the interpretation of the data collected or arguments presented.

- VII. **Chapters:** List projected chapter titles.