

Writing Assignment 1

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Foundations of Quantitative Reasoning

Assignment: Over the course of the last 20 years, honeybee colonies have declined significantly due to pesticide use, fertilizers, and agricultural structures. Certain agricultural crops are resistant to these external pressures, while other fruits and vegetables are negatively affected. As a scientist for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), you are tasked with developing a proposal to address this problem. What would you aim to discover about this issue? How would you discover this (e.g. tools, techniques, procedures, considerations)? Craft a proposal to the scientists working for the United Nations to inform them of your decision and plan.

Please follow the rubric below. Feel free to pull on all sources in developing your essay. Make sure your paper is nicely formatted: Times New Roman font, 1” margins, single-spaced, references, etc. Please limit your essay to **around one page in length**. Include appropriate scientific writing and remember who your audience is (the UN). Include at least two primary, peer-reviewed journal articles. Be sure to address this essay from a creative, holistic but realistic viewpoint. Pay close attention to your thesis statement, support your position, and be cognizant of paragraph transitions, grammar, and spelling.

GRADING RUBRIC

Category	Criteria	Score
OBJECTIVE	1.1 Purpose: What is the problem and task? Provide background information to introduce and frame the problem and task.	/3
	1.2 Approach: How will you approach the problem/task? Formulate a plan that <i>clearly</i> outlines your approach.	/3
	1.3 Credibility: What sources will you include? Use peer-reviewed articles and other supporting information that are relevant to the problem/task.	/3
	Average Objective Score	/3
DISCIPLINARY GROUNDING	2.1 Disciplines/Experts: What disciplines and/or experts will be involved? Include <i>two or more disciplines and/or experts</i> in your approach to the problem/task.	/3
	2.2 Disciplinary Reasoning: Why are you including <i>each</i> discipline and/or expert? <i>Meaningfully</i> explain the reasoning behind the use of each discipline and/or expert.	/3
	2.3 Methods & Tools: What methods will each discipline and/or expert use? Include techniques/procedures/tools from contributing disciplines and/or experts.	/3
	Average Disciplinary Grounding Score	/3
INTEGRATION	3.1 Leveraging Disciplines/Experts: How will each contributing discipline and/or expert build off one another to effectively address the problem/task? Specifically address how each discipline's and/or expert's contribution (knowledge/methods) will be useful for the other disciplines and/or experts.	/3
	3.2 Collaboration: How will you foster successful partnerships? Include two or more ways to build community and respect among different disciplinary team members.	/3
	Average Integration Score	/3
BROADER AWARENESS	4.1 Societal Impact: How does your proposed solution impact society? Include what/who will be affected (e.g. economics, politics, social, health, etc.).	/3
	4.2 Limitations: What are the potential limitations to your plan and how will you overcome these barriers? Forecast possible limitations of your plan and provide resolutions.	/3
	Average Broader Awareness Score	/3
FORMAT*	5.1 Format, Grammar, Structure: Have you followed all formatting guidelines? Does your proposal have an introduction, body, and conclusion?	/3