

## Mini Report Instructions and Grading

Your mini report should resemble an abbreviated scientific article, with a formal, argumentative style. This should include 6 or 7 explicitly labeled sections in the following order: 1-Title page (just a brilliant title + your name), 2-Figures and Tables, 3-References, 4-Introduction, 5-Methods, 6-Results, 7-Discussion (or alternatively, a hybrid section 6- Results and Discussion). Section-specific guidelines are below. In general, aim for high content density, not length. Use the citation style of your choosing– just be consistent.

-Yes, do put the Figures, Tables, and References in the front.

-No, you do not need to write an abstract or summary.

### Figures and Tables

Provide a minimum of 3 Figures. Include as many Tables as you need to convey key information and to streamline written sections (no Table requirement). Use your figure ideas from Handout #2, if you wish. Include an informative caption for each Figure/Table. Reference each Figure/Table at least once in a written section.

### References

Use a minimum of 12 in-text citations and thus 12 in the References section.

### Introduction

The Introduction has more specific guidelines than the other sections. This section should contain a minimum of two well developed paragraphs, to accommodate components related to your proposal. These components are: 1) scientific merit- arguments why your project represents a new and important piece of scholarship, supported with citations; 2) research question(s)- one to three explicit research questions (USE THE QUESTION MARK) that encompass the overarching intentions of your project; 3) hypotheses or predictions- at least 1 if not multiple candidate hypotheses or predictions, again supported by arguments and citations. 4) rationale- supporting arguments that set up the reasons why the hypotheses or predictions are plausible. If you think the content from your proposal is sufficient, it is fine to copy and paste that into parts of your introduction. On the other hand, if you encounter a reason, it is also fine to make a big change from your Proposal responses.

### Methods, Results, and Discussion

These sections should each contain a minimum of two paragraphs. Do not exceed 5 paragraphs in any of these sections. If you prefer, you can use a hybrid Results and Discussion section (with 2x the limits/guidelines from above).

## **Grading**

Proposal and short presentation  
20 % (4)

Mini Report draft  
0 % (0)

Results presentation (10-12 minutes plus Q & A)  
20 % (4)

Mini Report document  
60% (12)