

WVU GENOMIC DATA ANALYSIS – PROPOSAL FORMAT

Proposal Format

Your proposal will be 2-3 pages, single-spaced, with 1 inch margins. Pay attention to spelling, grammar, and punctuation – glaring errors will reflect poorly on your proposal during the peer review process. Include the following sections in your document:

- 1. Background** (*0.5-0.75 page*). Include a brief introduction to your particular project, the research objective, and the critical gap in knowledge that this project is designed to address. End this section with a succinct statement of your specific aim.
- 2. Methods** (*1-2 pages*). Present the details of your experimental design, including all relevant tasks required to accomplish your objective, and the steps in your pipeline that will accomplish those tasks (including proposed software). You may include one figure (graph, flow chart, table, etc.) to help describe your approach. Your approach must align with your own capabilities, so also include a brief statement about your skills here. For example, what coding experience do you have? What is your biology background? How does your approach (and project) align with your skills and interests?
- 3. Expected Outcomes** (*0.5 page*). Briefly discuss what outcome you anticipate from your approach, as well as any possible alternatives or challenges that you foresee.
- 4. References** (*not included in page limit*). Include at least five (5) references from peer-reviewed journals. Format your references according to the journal *Science*, and cite them within your main proposal. A reference manager (Zotero, Mendeley, EndNote, etc.) is highly recommended.

See the **Proposal Review** document for more information about important content to include in your proposal.