Research Project Proposal
The lectures, reading, analysis, and discussion in this course are meant to guide you in a research project in the field. Unlike other graduate courses, however, this course is meant to cover the research process in greater detail. One artifact for this course is a project proposal. This proposal is meant to be more in-depth and formal than other project proposals or prospecti that you may have submitted in other courses — more akin to formal proposals for master's theses, doctoral dissertations, or research grants. Your proposal should address the following topics. You do not need to use these specific headings.

**Hypothesis**  A tentative assumption made in order to draw out and test its logical or empirical consequences

**Motivation**  Why this problem is worth studying

**Issues**  Important issues facing your project

**Approach**  The method(s) will you use to test your hypothesis

**Assessment**  How you will know that your results are credible, accurate

**Background/Related Work**  Other work that has been done in this area, and why each is significant
  - Work you will build upon
  - Work that is outside the scope of your effort

**Statement of Work/Work Plan and Resources**
  - Brief description of how you would go about completing the proposed work
  - List of resources, human, software, hardware, and others, needed to complete the proposal

**Conclusion**  What conclusion(s) do you expect to draw from this work

**Future Work**  What follow-on work would you like to see done at the conclusion of this project?