A research proposal is an important first step in a research project because it helps the researcher to consider:

- previous literature
- practical problems in conducting the research
Research proposal

- how the data will be analyzed (and whether research is analyzable)
- eventual interpretation of the expected results

Goal of Research Proposal

- Ensure a reasonable experiment that, when implemented, will result in interpretable findings that have scientific merit

Components of the Research Proposal

- Title page
  - Don't forget the running head!!
- Abstract
  - 100-120 words
Components of the Research Proposal

• Introduction
  – Past research
  – Why study is important
  – Hypotheses

• Method
  – 3 sections
    • Participants
    • Instruments/materials
    • Procedure

• Method
  – Participants
    • Demographics
    • Number
    • Recruitment
  – Power analysis
Components of the Research Proposal

- **Method**
  - Materials
    - Scales
      - Reliable and valid
    - Stimulus materials
  - Procedure
    - Describe in detail how you will carry out the study

- **Expected Results and Proposed Data Analysis**
  - How will you analyze the data?
  - What do you expect to find?

- **Conclusion**
  - Final remarks
- **References**
- **Appendix**
  - Any materials/scales
- **IRB proposal**
Guidelines for Effective Writing

- Know your audience
- Identify your purpose
- Write clearly
- Be concise

- Be precise
- Follow grammatical rules
- Write fairly
- Write an interesting report