Critique Template for Thesis Proposals

Submit to the full Advisory Committee and Lorna Williams within 1-2 weeks of the submission date on the proposal.

**Student: Date of Critique:**

**Committee Member:**

**Overall Assessment (select one):** Minor Revisions Major Revisions

# Overall Impact

Provide an assessment of the likelihood for the project to lead to an important advance in the research field(s) involved, in consideration of the following three individual review criteria, i.e. Significance, Innovation and Approach.

|  |
| --- |
| [Overall Impact](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/rpg.htm)  Write a paragraph summarizing your overall impression of the significance, innovation and approach described in the proposal. Specific strengths and weaknesses should be entered in the following individual review criteria boxes. |
|  |

# INDIVIDUAL Review Criteria

Provide feedback on specific strengths and weaknesses for each of the three individual review criteria. Short, declarative bullet points are sufficient.

|  |
| --- |
| 1. [Significance](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/rpg.htm)  Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge and/or technical capability be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods or technologies that drive this field? |
| **Strengths**      **Weaknesses** |

|  |
| --- |
| 2. [Innovation](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/rpg.htm)  Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or practical applications by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, or instrumentation? Is the novelty focused on one field of research or more broadly relevant? Does the proposal describe a modest step away from current research or a creative new direction? |
| **Strengths**      **Weaknesses** |

|  |
| --- |
| 3. [Approach](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/critiques/rpg.htm)  Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? If the project is in the early stages of development, will the strategy establish feasibility and will particularly risky aspects be managed? |
| **Strengths**      **Weaknesses** |