

**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Departments of Biological Sciences and Chemistry**  
**Honours Project Proposal Guidelines**

**I. Title**

The title of your proposal should be informative and generally should not exceed 15 words.

**II. Objectives**

State the purpose of your project, including the central question you intend to answer through your research. Then list the specific objectives that will be addressed by each part of your research project.

**III. Background and rationale for the project**

Summarize existing, published work on the topic you propose to explore (be sure to cite your sources), and briefly explain how your proposed project relates to published research. Summarize any work you have carried out so far.

**IV. Materials and methods**

- Describe your experimental setup: field sites, greenhouse, laboratory, etc., as applicable.
- In general, what methods will you use? Do you need any special equipment?
- Describe your experimental design. What kind of data will you collect? Define your null hypothesis if you have one.
- How will you analyse your data? Describe the statistical analyses you will use for each experiment or set of data.
- Do you require permits for collecting or getting access to your sites? Does your project require approval from the TRU Research Ethics - Animal Subjects or Human Subjects committees? If so, indicate the progress you have made with application for such approval.

**V. Expected results**

What information do you expect to gain by doing this project and what information do you think will be new to science?

**VI. Timeline**

When will you start your experiments, and when will data collection be completed? Over what period of time will you be analysing your data? When will you begin and complete writing your thesis? Do you foresee anything that could prevent you from completing your project by the deadline?

**VII. Expenses**

The Department of Biological Sciences can generally provide up to \$150 in supplies for your project and will pay for the cost of producing your poster and binding of 3 copies of your thesis. Other funding must be provided by the student and/or the supervisor. Please provide a proposed budget including approximate needs for equipment and supplies, transportation, and other expenses and list your sources of funding (supervisor's grants, CUEF grant, other?).

**VIII. Literature sources**

List the publications you have found that are relevant to your project and that you have cited in your proposal.