

GUIDELINES FOR NEUROBIOLOGY OF HEARING 2022 PAPERS

The goal of the exercise is to form a testable experimental hypothesis about a topic that is relevant to the lectures and discussion from the previous week. The paper may be written by a team of two persons, but the same team can only collaborate on one paper during the course.

1. The only acceptable topics are the lecture titles from the previous week. The relationship between your topic and one of the lecture topics should be obvious in your title or introduction. Paper on random topics not directly related to the lectures and labs will receive a lower grade.
2. Submit the topic or title of your paper in advance.
3. The paper must be a minimum of one page single spaced.
4. Use subtitles to identify the major parts of the paper: The suggested parts of the paper are: Background & Significance, Hypothesis, Experimental Design, and Expected Results.
5. Background & Significance should introduce the problem to be addressed and why it is important.
6. You must state the hypothesis explicitly. Use a sentence structure like: "We will test the hypothesis that . . ."
7. Experimental design is logic of the experiment and should not be confused with methods. It should be clear from the design what methods will be used and what data will be collected. A separate methods section is not necessary.
8. The expected results must give an example of an experimental result that would support your hypothesis; and you also must give an experimental result that would force you to reject your hypothesis as false. Unless a hypothesis can be proven false under some condition, it is not a useful or "testable" hypothesis.
9. Name the file for the paper: "**YourLastname&Co-authorLastname_paper1.doc**" Also, put your NAME at the top of the paper.
10. Submit your paper in the Dropbox we will share with you or send to Dr. Oliver by email.

SCORING GUIDELINES

Area	Points Possible
Introduction and background. What question will be addressed?	20
Significance?	10
Testable hypothesis?	25
Experimental design --Methods --Does the design test the hypothesis?	25
Expected results -Data to disprove the hypothesis -Data to sustain the hypothesis	20
Total	100

GUIDELINES FOR THE CRITIQUES – only one author per critique

1. You will receive another paper to review. You must provide a critique within 24 hrs.
2. Critiques should be written in a narrative format that summarize the strengths and weaknesses of the proposal. Critiques should be a minimum of two paragraphs.
3. The critique must begin with a short synopsis of the paper in your own words to show that you have read and understood the paper.
4. The most important parts of the proposal deserve your most attention.
 - a. Does the proposal truly attempt to learn something new in the topic area? This judgement must be based on your knowledge of the subject as learned in class.
 - b. Is the proposal relevant to the topics presented in class? Lack of relevance should be noted.
 - c. Does the proposal have a testable hypothesis?
 - d. Is the logic of the experimental design suitable to test the hypothesis? This is not the same thing as detailed comments on methods. Most students in this class have little direct experience with actual laboratory methods (that is why we are going to Prague).
 - e. Is the proposal clear and understandable? This is not the same as detailed comments on sentence structure and grammar.
5. If you want to be anonymous, do NOT use track changes in MS Word since it will contain your initials or name. We will give your critique to the authors of the proposal, so they will see all comments that you have entered.
6. You may make marginal comments, but these are not required. A narrative summary of the strengths and weaknesses is required.
7. Please try to be constructive.
8. Name the file for the critique: **YourLastname_critique_of_Authorlastname.docx or *.pdf**. Use either Word or pdf format files. You may submit a separate critique file or add your critique to the file containing the paper. In either case, use the naming convention above.