Learning Resources: Examples of successful grant proposals, documents describing 
grant components and assigned readings that will be provided.

Course Hours: W 12:00 - 1:50 p.m. in ALS0012 (at least for starters)

Course Credits: 2 credits (combining 20 hours of in-class instruction/discussion with out 
of class reading/writing tasks needed for you to develop your proposal.

Prerequisites: Graduate Standing

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description: Participants will write a predoctoral research proposal by the end of 
the term. Discussions will cover the main components of proposals and strategies for 
developing them. Participants will also gain skills by reading and critique proposal 
drafts written by other participants. The course can be especially valuable for second 
year doctoral students who will be needing to prepare a thesis proposal.

Learning Outcomes: Through taking this course, successful students will:
1. Recognize and understand the purpose of the components of a typical research proposal;
2. Know and apply principles of good grantsmanship in evaluating and creating proposal 
   components;
3. Experience giving and receiving critical feedback that improves proposal drafts;
4. Take greater ownership of and refine plans for their research project;
5. Create a complete, cohesive, quality research proposal in their chosen format.

Course Outline:
Week 1. Topics, deadlines and the art of writing grants
Week 2. The Hook; taking ownership of your project
Week 3. Specific Aims
Week 4. Research Plan (Approach)
Week 5. Background
Week 6. Innovation
Week 7. Refining (focus on flow to bring readers along)
Week 8. Refining (value of formatting and figures)
Week 9. Summary; Refining (heighten and tighten)
Week 10. Debrief

Evaluation of Student Performance: Based on attendance and participation in class discussion 
and the successful completion of a proposal.

Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities: Accommodations for students with 
disabilities are determined and approved by Disability Access Services (DAS). If you, as a 
student, believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval please 
contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098 or at http://ds.oregonstate.edu. DAS notifies 
students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates 
implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members 
are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations.

Student Conduct Expectations link: http://studentlife.oregonstate.edu/code