



GEO-DEEP9300

Proposal writing

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Why should you write a proposal?

- *You need a job*
- *You need money to conduct research*
- *You need to pass this course*



What is needed?

- *A good idea*
- *Good? → answer an interesting question*
- *Interesting?*



What does it take to get a good idea?

- *Time*
 - *Overview of a field*
 - *Curiosity about other fields*
- *Write down your ideas, any time, however stupid*
- *1/10 rule*



Preparatory work

- *Check if somebody has already done this*
- *Yes* → *update your idea* 
- *No* →
- *Why not done before?*
 - *No interest?*
 - *Question not raised before?*
 - *Methodology not mature?*
 - *Data not accessible?*
 - *Nobody able to do it?*
- *What is needed:*
 - *New methodology?*
 - *New data?*
 - *Original combinations?*



Preparatory work

- *Where to apply?*
- *Analyse the call*
- *Get the template*



Start writing

- *Demonstrate why interesting*
- *Demonstrate excellent knowledge of background*
 - *Well-chosen references (think of potential reviewers)*
- *Demonstrate you are able to do this*
 - *Previous work*
 - *Ideas well-thought*
 - *Contacts*
- *Demonstrate you have a plan*
 - *Plan A*
 - *Risks and plan B*
 - *Contacts made*
 - *Sites identified*
 - *Methodology identified*



Start writing

- *Demonstrate you have a plan*
 - *Tasks*
 - *Man-power*
 - *Budget*
 - *Ambitious but realistic*

 - *Use figures, sketches, maps, tables for tasks.*
- ***GET THIS INTO THE TEMPLATE!***
- *Get feedback from colleagues.*



Proposal versus article writing

Article	Proposal
Work done	Work not done
Convince	
Build on other people's work	
Neutral and analytic	Enthusiastic
«We»	«I/We»
Discussion of limitations	Feasibility/Risk analysis
	Budget