What is a research proposal?
A research proposal is a document that lays the groundwork for research that is yet to take place. As described by Paul Wong, “a research proposal is intended to convince others that you have a worthwhile research project and that you have the competence and the work-plan to complete it.”

Why should my proposal be one page?
A 1-page proposal provides the opportunity for you to emphasize the most important details about your proposed research.

How should I organize my one-page proposal?
- **TITLE**: Your title should be concise and specific to your research proposal.
- **RESEARCH TOPIC & RESEARCH QUESTION**: What is your research topic and research question? (If your discipline utilizes hypotheses, include your hypothesis here.)
- **CONTRIBUTION TO THE DISCIPLINE/FIELD**: What is known about your research topic? What is unknown? How will your research contribute to the production of new knowledge in your discipline/field to address what is unknown?
- **GOALS**: What do you plan to accomplish this summer? NOTE: Your summer research may be part of a longer research project but you should identify specific goals or outcomes for the summer research period.
- **DESIGN, METHODS, APPROACH**: How will you conduct your research to answer your research question? For example: What is your experimental design? What are your methods? What is your theoretical approach?
- **TIMELINE**: What is your timeline for completing your research project? What are your milestones during the research period? Your timeline can range from 6 to 10 weeks, depending upon your & your faculty mentor’s preferences.
- **BROADER IMPLICATIONS**: Why is research in this area important? How does or will research in this area make a difference (now or in the future) and to whom?
- **PRIOR EXPERIENCE**: What are your prior experiences that prepare you to do this work? (For example, course work, other research experience, etc.)