Proposal Rubric

	Needs Improvement	Developing	Proficient	Excels
Introduction	Introduction is incomplete; missing one or more criteria and no mention of the proposed design	Lists the criteria of the project but does not describe them; mentions the proposed design by listing the results or details but not both	Summarizes the design request and describes most criteria; describes the proposed design by listing the results or details but not both	Thoroughly summarizes the design request and describes the proposed design by listing the variables or details and the final results
Design Decisions (same for each criterion)	No evidence is provided to support the design decision; explanation is inadequate or missing	Uses minimal evidence to support the design decision and does not explain why the scientific feature was selected over other options and/or how that feature of the design relates to the criterion	Uses some evidence to support design decision, mostly explaining why the specific feature was selected over other options and how that feature of the design relates to the criterion	Uses multiple pieces of strong evidence to support design decision, thoroughly explaining why the specific feature was selected over other options and how that feature of the design relates to the criterion
Conclusion: Considering Trade-offs	Two or more of the following need attention: design priorities, summary of trade-offs in the optimal design, or a closing statement	One of the following needs attention: design priorities, summary of trade-offs in the optimal design, or a closing statement	Includes all of the following, but may lack detail: design priorities, summary of trade-offs in the optimal design, and a closing statement	Description of design priorities is clear; summary of trade-offs in the optimal design is detailed and thorough; includes a strong closing statement
Scientific Communication	Lacks topic-specific vocabulary; uses informal style or language	Attempts to use topic-specific vocabulary and formal writing style, but needs improvement	Uses some topic-specific vocabulary; uses formal writing style somewhat successfully	Uses topic-specific vocabulary clearly and appropriately; uses formal writing style successfully