Week 1: What is a proposal? What is the purpose of a proposal? What are you being judged on?
• Find the proposal guidelines for your funding agency of choice
• A good thesis proposal should be submittable to an agency to get funding
• Use these guidelines to help structure your proposal
• In-class writing exercise: come up with a proposal title, and a 1 or 2-line thesis/proposal.
Readings:
http://www.ccs.neu.edu/home/shivers/diss-advice.html

Week 2: Proposal structure – how to build a proposal outline, how to organize and present your thoughts, results, and proposed work.
• In-class writing exercise: come up with 3 or 4 chapter titles
• Come up with thesis proposal outline
Readings:
Former student’s thesis proposals
Porter Sales Pitch

Week 3: Proposal rubric – developing a guide for writing and assessing your proposal
Readings:
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4892374/
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4892374/table/T2/
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4892374/table/T4/

Week 4: Proposal content – what to include in your proposal and why.

Week 5: Writing style, figures – how to get your information down on paper, how to best convey your information and ideas.

Week 6: Writing exercises

Week 7: Writing exercises

Week 8: Writing exercises
Week 9: Writing exercises

Week 10: Writing exercises