1 The project

1.1 Laying logical groundwork

Deductive .................................................

1. Paradigm or theory

2. Hypothesis

3. Observation

4. Confirmation
Inductive  ................................................................. □

1. Observation

2. Pattern and/or generalizations

3. Hypothesis

4. Theory
1.2 Things to think about

- Have I used terminology correctly? .................................................. □ Terms like “analysis”, “claim”, “theory”, etc.
- Are there any hidden assumptions? ............................................... □
- Are there any fallacies? ............................................................... □ bookmarks yourlogicalfallacyis.com

2 The proposal

2.1 Preparation

1. Check funder guidelines
   - Eligibility: do you meet funder eligibility criteria? ....................... □ This is where the difference between “fellowships”, “scholarships”, and “research grants” comes in.
   - Funder fit: does your research fit funder priorities? ..................... □ Another special kind of academic writing specific to fellowships and scholarships
   - Is a personal statement required? .............................................. □ Usually only needed for research grants
   - Budget limitations: is the funding sufficient for your proposed research?. .................................................. □

2. Quality of research proposal
   - What is the research question/your idea/initiative? ....................... □ This should actually be in the form of a question in the proposal
   - What is novel about it? ............................................................. □
   - What is your thesis/central premise? .......................................... □
   - What is the evidence for the premise? ....................................... □
   - Is there preliminary data/prior research this project will build upon? ...... □
   - What is the research significance? ............................................. □
- Why should you study it? ........................................
  ...........................................................................□
- Why now? ..........................................................
  ...........................................................................□
- What are you going to do? .................................
  ...........................................................................
- What is the aim of the project? What do you want to achieve? ...........
  ...........................................................................□
- How will you achieve it? .......................................
  ...........................................................................
- Why should the funder support your proposal? .................
  ...........................................................................

2. Quality of outcomes
- What are the intended outcomes of the research? ..............
  ...........................................................................□
- What will they contribute to addressing a problem/expandin g knowledge in the field? .................................
  ...........................................................................□

3. About you
- Capability, qualifications and experience of the PI  ............
  ...........................................................................□
- Track record/performance in the proposed research area .......
  ...........................................................................□
- Do you have any previous experience in this area? ............
  ...........................................................................□
2.2 Proposal presentation: a final checklist

- Readability: does it engage your audience? ☐
- Clarity: is it clearly expressed? ☐
- Be explicit: have you said what you are going to do and why? ☐
- Short sentences: is it succinct? ☐
- Have you kept abbreviations to a minimum and defined them all? ☐
- Avoid grammatical and spelling errors: have you proofread? ☐
- Avoid jargon: is the language accessible? ☐
- Have you provided as much specific detail as possible about your object(s) of study? ☐
- Have you articulated a specific and substantive methodological or theoretical framework? ☐
- Have you conveyed a sense of the structure of your thesis? ☐
- Do the goals of your project sound feasible within the period of your award tenure? ☐
- Have you emphasized how your research project will contribute knowledge that will be useful and relevant? ☐
- Is your project interdisciplinary in nature? If so, have you specified how your research will contribute to a variety of fields and disciplines? ☐
- Have you focused your project by providing a catchy, informative title? ☐