ASP 2018 STUDENT COMPETITION
ROUND 1 RUBRIC - WRITTEN APPLICATIONS

Author_____ **Type**_____ **Reviewer**_____

Criterion	Excellent 5	Good 4-3	Average 3-2	Deficient 1	Score
Background & Significance	• Clearly describes rationale for the study • Places research in larger context of primatology • Describes a new research question or new methods/procedures • Conclusions explain importance of research within broader context of primatology	Some elements deficient or missing	Many, but not most, elements deficient or missing	• Rationale for study is unclear • Poor case for importance of research • Novelty of research question or methods is unclear • Conclusions are lacking in significance to primatology	
Research Design	• Clearly and briefly explains methods so they are understandable • Introduces and defines new terms, concepts, methods • Does not assume reader knows methods • Statistical analyses are appropriate	Some elements deficient or missing	Many, but not most, elements deficient or missing	• Methods are confusing, not easily understood • New terms, methods, concepts are not defined or explained • Causes confusion for reader • Statistical analyses are inappropriate	
Organization	• Logical flow is present: Background, Research Question, Methods, Results, Conclusions • Fluid transitions from one topic to the next • Figures, if present, are easy to read and understand	Some elements deficient or missing	Many, but not most, elements deficient or missing	• Jumpy or sporadic flow; presentation is difficult to follow; not sequential • Transitions are awkward or sudden • Figures are difficult to interpret	
Writing/ Format	• Is professional and written like a mini-manuscript • Is largely error-free (grammar, spelling, punctuation) • Contains all components/follows directions (cover letter, writes in prose instead of bullets, adheres to word count, etc.)	Some elements deficient or missing	Many, but not most, elements deficient or missing	• Multiple deficiencies including many typos, grammar and punctuation errors • Is too colloquial • Writing is difficult to follow • Does not follow instructions and/or several parts are missing	
Overall evaluation of application	• All elements of the application were excellent	Some elements deficient or missing,	Many, but not most, elements deficient or missing	• Most elements of application were deficient	
Total Score (out of 25 possible)					

Strengths:

Suggestions for improvement: