

# Tips and Structure for a Sci-athon Proposal:

**Overview:** Sciathon is a team challenge designed to motivate **interdisciplinary** thinking to solve complex problems. Proposals must cover a lot of ground (background, idea, precedent, and viability) in a very short amount of time (~10 min presentation), so figures and succinctness are invaluable.

## Suggested Components:

1. Hook/Broad Scope Introduction
  - a. What is the problem you are addressing?
  - b. Why is it a problem that should be addressed?
  - c. How do you introduce the problem in an engaging way?
  - d. Previous example (first slide of the presentation):

## Treating the Madness of Odysseus: Water Table Purification Through Biomimicry

Andrew Camp, Jack Eicher, Irene Manning



2. Existing technologies/solutions: Identifying a gap
  - a. What work has been done on this issue previously?
  - b. Are there any **gaps** that can be filled?
  - c. How can you motivate your unique idea in the context of existing technologies (if any)?
3. Filling the gap: Introduction to your idea
  - a. How can you combine your respective disciplines or knowledge to solve the problem?
  - b. Is there a succinct way to describe your solution?
4. Science moment: Motivating your idea with literature support
  - a. What existing literature is there on the subject?
  - b. What sources can you use to motivate or support the feasibility of your idea?
  - c. Can you address critique or problems with your solutions?
  - d. Can you propose preliminary research or design ideas?
5. Conclusion
  - a. How does your idea fit into the big picture of the problem?
  - b. Can you summarize your idea with a memorable statement, figure, or idea?