

STAT59 Study Design Tool

Title:

By:

Date:

Part I: What Am I Trying to Prove?

1. Write the single primary objective of the study.

2. Write the research hypothesis.

3. Formulate the null and alternative statistical hypotheses:

1. Null Hypothesis:

2. Alternative Hypothesis:

4. Write a single optional secondary objective.

5. List any additional descriptive outcomes. These outcomes will be described in the paper but not used for hypothesis testing.

Part II: Who Cares:

1. Write a brief description of the target audience.

2. Describe why this finding would be important to the target audience.

3. Note the costs of not knowing the answer to your research hypothesis.

4. Predict the benefits of knowing the answer to your research hypothesis.

Part III: Could this Possibly Be True?

1. Write a brief description of the mechanism of how your hypothesis could be true. Try to use established facts rather than speculation.

2. Give at least three references that support your mechanism.

Part IV: Choose the Best Design.

1. Choose the best study design to prove your research hypothesis. Aim as close to the top of the pyramid as you can reasonably attain.



Study Design: