Word template for the NRAO Plan of Dissertation Research.

Submitted in support of a NRAO or GBO proposal.

This template should NOT be used for ALMA, NRAO, or GBO proposals.

Reviewed for NRAO/GBO Sem 24A; version 1.0

This is an instructional page!

Do NOT include it in your plan of research.

This is a summary of the guidelines for a Plan of Dissertation Research. Consult the NRAO and GBO User's Policies or contact the NRAO Science Helpdesk directly.

Students proposing to use an NRAO telescope for their PhD dissertation must submit a "Plan of Dissertation Research" if they check the thesis box on the PST. The plan provides some assurance against a dissertation being impaired by adverse referee comments on one proposal, when the referees do not see the full scope of the project. This requirement applies to all three of the NRAO major instruments: VLA, VLBA and GBT.

The Plan of Dissertation Research can be uploaded either from the Author's page or from the student's user profile at: Profile > My Profile > User Preferences. The Plan of Dissertation Research is associated with an Author which can then be used in one or more proposals. The Plan of Dissertation Research field here is only used to display the current status. For example, if there are no students listed on the proposal who are observing for their thesis the text box will display: “Dissertation Research Plan(s) not required”.

If a Plan of Dissertation Research is compliant with these guidelines, an associated proposal may be considered for a potential boost ranking during the review process, although it is NOT guaranteed. However, non-compliant plans will automatically render the associated proposal ineligible for any ranking elevation. See the NRAO and GBO User's Policies for the full policy.

The Plan of Dissertation Research must all fit within the 2-page limit with 1 in margins. 11pt is the minimum font size allowed!! This applies to everything, including references, figure captions, and tables See the NRAO and GBO User's Policies for the consequences of a non-compliant lan of Dissertation Research

INCLUDE your name, institution, thesis adviser name, and their institution. The title, abstract and list of investigators should NOT be included in the Plan of Dissertation Research.

The section headers are not to be changed to be compliant. You should replace the italicized instructional text in each section. A Plan of Dissertation Research not compliant to this will be rejected. See the NRAO and GBO User's Policies for the consequences of a non-compliant Plan of Dissertation Research.

End of Instructions

PhD Student's Name Advisor's Name

Student's Institution Advisor's Institution

## 1 Thesis Summary and Science Goals:

*This section should include a broad overview of the questions that the student's thesis will address. Since the thesis plan will be read by reviewers that may not be direct experts in the research field of expertise, the thesis summary should provide context to a reviewer with general astronomy or astrophysics education and training.*

## 2 Role of NRAO Facilities to the Thesis Work:

*Please describe in adequate detail how the observations taken with NRAO facilities (i.e., GBT, VLA, VLBA, HSA, and GMVA) can address the questions and/or problems presented in Section 1. It should not be a repeat of the submitted proposal but rather how NRAO facilities are necessary to address the broader science questions.*

## 3 NRAO Facility Resources Required:

*Describe any additional resources needed by NRAO in order to complete this observing program. This can include publication charges, space for analyzing the data on NRAO computers, face-to-face visitor support and any additional resources that are currently not contained in the proposal text.*

## 4 Thesis Timeline:

*The student must demonstrate how the submitted proposal fits into the timeline for thesis completion. For example, are these data the final products to complete the thesis? Is the proposal the first step on a new thesis program? A thesis plan to completion must be described on a quarterly basis (e.g. Chapter 5 - Completed by Spring 2024; Acquire data for Chapter 6 - Summer 2025).*

## 5 References

*List references here. Minimum font size for references: 11pt*

[1] Author1 et al. year, journal, vol, page

[2] Author2 et al. year, journal, vol, page