

## Rubric for ranking proposals for the 2021 Mini-ARTS

**Goals** of this award program are to: 1) address constraints on our knowledge of undescribed biodiversity, 2) assist in passing on taxonomic expertise before it is lost, 3) increase the number of students with broad training in organismal biology and systematics, and 4) support projects in biodiversity and taxonomy informatics as well as monographic and revisionary taxonomy.

Category	Excellent (5)	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)
Goals, objectives, question	Includes achievable goals and a timeline. Objectives appropriate for the proposed goal.	Same as for excellent but perhaps one objective less clear than others.	One or more objectives seem disconnected from goal.	Lacking goal or objectives. Objectives not related to proposed research question.	Project's purpose is unclear, objectives are not appropriate for meeting proposed goal.
Plan, methods, schedule	Clearly outlined plan, activities are well defined, strongly link to project goals, and coherent with schedule.	Plans, use of funds, and schedule are stated. Methods are generally sufficient for meeting project goals.	One of plans, use of funds, or schedule is missing or unconnected to goals.	Design is vague, proposer's grasp of methods is unclear/insufficient, schedule lacking.	Methods are not clearly linked to, or are not appropriate for, project goals. Plan unlikely to lead to success.
Significance	Proposal overtly addresses two or more of the goals of the program (above).	Proposal overtly addresses one of the goals of the program (above).	Relationship between program goal/s and proposal is implied but not completely clear.	It is difficult to tell whether the proposal addresses any of the goals or not.	Unrelated to program goals.
Relationship to taxonomy & systematics	Proposal clearly addresses how the project is related to taxonomy & systematics.	Project fits broadly within taxonomy & systematics but proposal does not strongly make this link.	Project fits within taxonomy & systematics but this link is not stated.	Proposal is only incidentally related to taxonomy & systematics.	Unrelated to taxonomy or systematics.