

Research Proposal Guidelines

Title Page with names of candidate and supervisors

Abstract

Table of contents (optional)

Perhaps a glossary or other introductory preparatory information

Research Background

- The research problem and rationale for the study
- Literature review that provides the context (ie., literature and theory relevant to the study) and a justification for the research problem(s)/question(s)
- Research objectives or research questions or hypothesis(es)
- Significance or expected contribution of the study
- Scope and/or limitations of study/research area

Research Design/Methodology/Approach

- A description of, and rationale for, with justification for the methodology and methods to be used in the study
- Data Analysis (a description of and rationale for the proposed method of data analysis)

Programme/Project Management

- Ethical consideration (if appropriate)
- Potential risks or problems (and how they would be addressed)
- Research programme
 - o Timeframe (presented on a Gantt Chart), budget (fully itemised and justified), resources, health and safety considerations

Supplementary Sections

- References
- Appendices (if applicable)