

**RESEARCH PROPOSAL GUIDELINE**

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Title Page with names of candidate and supervisors

Abstract

Table of contents (optional)

Perhaps a glossary or other useful 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/question
* 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 apt for 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
  + Timeframe, budget, resources, health and safety considerations

Supplementary Sections

* References
* Appendices (if applicable)