

Research Proposal

TITLE

Candidate name:
Candidate student number:
Supervisors:
Project commencement date:
Thesis submission date:

Signed:

..... /...../.....
Candidate Date

..... /...../.....
Supervisor Date

..... /...../.....
MEM Coordinator Date



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Thesis Title

[In your *proposal* your title should reflect the project aim. Your *thesis* title should reflect your research findings]

Introduction and research context (2-3 pages)

[Review of key literature that underpins your research aims, hypotheses and questions. The context for your research – brief description of why the research is important, this section should justify and explain your aim and objectives.

Include:

- An introduction to the research topic, focusing on aspects that directly relate to your research question
- A rationale for undertaking the project and the significance of the topic
- A statement of the key research question(s) being addressed

By the end of your Introduction the reader should understand the topic, be convinced that what you are doing is important, clearly understand exactly what aspects of the topic your project will address, and have an understanding of the theoretical basis of your study. The Introduction leads your reader logically towards your research aim and objectives.]

Research aim and objectives

[Aim: This is an overall statement of the purpose of your research, in one or two sentences. You can also express this as a hypothesis or a question.

Objectives

- A list of the steps or “objects” that will lead to the achievement of your aim
- There will typically be between 4-6 objectives
- You should plan for each objective to stand alone - make sure that the objectives are not inter-dependent, such that if you do not achieve one key outcome, the whole project is placed at risk]

Methods (0.5 to 2 pages)

[Map methods to research question and objectives; include sampling design; included expected methods of analysis; include a theoretical framework, as appropriate for your study. This may include literature review and analysis, laboratory studies, field studies, statistical analyses or surveys and interviews. You will need to justify the theoretical and methodological approach you have chosen.]

Ethical, legal and/or intellectual property clearances required

[If relevant to the project - the CDU Office of Refer to Research and Innovation (ORI) website for information about ethics clearances and research integrity <http://www.cdu.edu.au/research/ori/ethics> .

Examples of ethical issues that may arise during research include:

- *human or animal ethics, please refer to CDU website at <http://www.cdu.edu.au/research/ori/ethics>*
- *for guidelines on the responsible conduct of research, including authorship of publications arising from research thesis see, NHMRC website at <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines-publications/r39>*
- *for information for collecting NT wildlife for research purposes see <https://nt.gov.au/environment/animals/wildlife-permits> .*
- *Other considerations (please specify) such as:*
 - *Use of data owned by others,*
 - *Ownership of data collected*
 - *Confidentiality*
 - *Potential conflicts of interest*

- *Acquiring permission to access property for field work, etc*

References

[References at Master level and for your research project must be perfect. We request APA formatting.]

Resources required for the project

[Examples given below. Identify all resources required to undertake the project, including equipment, consumable items, personnel or travel costs. You will also need to outline how you plan to meet these requirements. If there are no expected costs, please state that.]

Expected Costs	Source of funds	\$
Travel and accommodation		
Field work - vehicle hire		
Field work - meals & accommodation		
Translators		
Imagery		
Software		
Equipment purchase		
Safety equipment		
etc		
Total		

Timeline for research

[Include tasks such as submission of your research proposal, time required to designing methods, gaining ethics approval (if needed), time for data collection, data analysis, preparation of figures and table, writing thesis text, time for supervisors to provide feed-back on drafts, formatting and submission of thesis. Please use to the MEM timeline template, an Excel file, to present your timeline.]