

# Dissertation / Thesis Proposal Form

Masters

Th.M.

Th.D.

Ph.D.

## Regulations



- Before writing their dissertation/ thesis, each student must complete this form. A student cannot begin work formally on his or her dissertation until the following conditions have been met:
  1. The Board of Examiners has indicated that the student is eligible.
  2. The title has been approved by the Mentor and the Academic Dean;
  3. A supervisor has been appointed.
- Please complete 2 copies of this form. One copy will be signed and returned to you once the title has been approved and a supervisor appointed.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A dissertation/ thesis proposal should contain the following parts and be about 5 pages in length. The order of topics in the proposal is not crucial. Remember to include your name and the date in your proposal.

## Working Title:

- The title should reflect the nature and scope of the proposed research.

## Research Question:

- State the research question clearly and briefly. The idea is to state the area of research rather than what will be argued.

## Motivation for This Research:

- Why do you want to do this research?

## Location of and Need for the Research in Current Scholarship:

- Here you should show how your proposal fits within the contemporary debate on your topic. This may include a brief listing of the most important literature you will refer to, primary material you will need to access, and, in any case, what your research will contribute.

## Scope and Limitations of the Research:

- The scope may be defined by persons, groups, geography, chronology, purpose or methods. It specifies the particular area of the topic you will deal with. The limitations address potential

weaknesses (access to necessary materials, linguistic, the inability to cover all the aspects of a given question). You can either turn this to your advantage by appealing to what this allows you to do or seek to limit the disadvantages by justifying the work despite these limitations.

### Methodology:

- What method(s) do you plan to use for your study?

### Working Outline:

- You may write this either in the form of a detailed draft Table of Contents, including not only chapter headings but also sub-headings, or giving chapter titles and a paragraph on what you plan to do in that chapter. Of course this outline may well change. It should be about one page.

### Bibliography:

- Significant works should appear here, if not already referred to above. Try to ensure that they demonstrate a broad coverage of the topic.

TO STUDENTS: Please do not write below this line.

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- Title approved: \_\_\_\_\_

- Date \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor(s) appointed:

- (Name of supervisor) \_\_\_\_\_

- (Name of second supervisor) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed:

- \_\_\_\_\_(Mentor)

- \_\_\_\_\_(Academic Dean)