

Thesis Proposals shall contain the following sections, presented in the order shown:

A. Title of the Study

This is the title as the student conceives it at the time the proposal is submitted. It should be no more than 100 characters in length. This title must match exactly the title on the thesis proposal approval form. As the research develops, minor rephrasings of the title may prove better suited to the work. In such cases, the most satisfactory one will be used for the thesis, but in no case will a title that deviates substantially from the one approved in the original proposal be approved unless a revised proposal with the new title has already been approved. Any title used must be consistent with the contents and subject of the thesis. **At that time a short title of 40 characters or less must be submitted.**

B. Statement of the Problem

Limit the statement, if possible, to two or three sentences, and note in precise language exactly what is to be investigated. To amplify the statement, it is usually desirable to list:

- The scope or limitations of the problem;
- Either one or more hypotheses the research seeks to test or the objectives expected as a result of the study.

Major assumptions that underlie both the study as a whole and the methodology to be followed should be indicated.

C. Justification for and Significance of the Study

This section of the proposal includes:

- A brief statement of the reason for the selection of the problem;
- The relation of the principal literature to the proposal;
- An explanation of the study's importance to the advancement of knowledge and its significance to the student.

The problem selected should be substantial enough to constitute a good example of a report of a scholarly investigation. Completion of a project or several unrelated projects does not satisfy this requirement. At the PhD level the work should constitute a significant increase in the pool of knowledge.

D. Methodology or Procedures

This section describes the activities necessary to achieve the objectives. Methods should flow naturally from the problems and objectives, should include:

- A research design;
- General characteristics of the study population;
- Location or setting in which the study will take place, calendar events in carrying out the study;
- Sampling design and procedures
- Data collection schedule
- Brief description of instruments and tools for collecting data (validity, reliability, and pre-testing of the data collecting instruments)
- Definition of the most important terms and concepts
- Data processing procedures and procedures of data analysis as appropriate

E. Resources Required

The last part of the thesis proposal is a statement of the resources needed for the successful completion of the study and an indication of their accessibility to the student proposing to use them. Books, letters, manuscripts, raw data, technical reports, laboratory equipment, and existing and proposed measuring