NAME OF CANDIDATE:

_____________________________________________

RESEARCH FIELD:

_____________________________________________
_____________________________________________
_____________________________________________
(JEL classification codes)

TOPIC:

_____________________________________________

MAJOR ADVISOR:

_____________________________________________
_____________________________________________
_____________________________________________
Research Proposal – Guidelines

Your overall aim is to produce a research proposal that is clear and coherent in every respect. You should therefore avoid the use of overly long sentences and of technical jargon. It is important that the proposed research is realistic and feasible so that the outcomes can be achieved within the scale of a typical research period. Although you should write the proposal yourself, it is best if you discuss its contents with your proposed supervisor (if you apply for a Ph.D. or Post-Doc position) before you submit it.

The following template applies to Ph.D., Post-Doc and grant research proposals. Research proposals should be no more than 3,000 words, including references.

Title of the project

1 Main objective and summary of the project
   • What is the general area in which you will be working and the specific aspect(s) of that area that will be your focus on inquiry?
   • What is the problem, shortcoming, or gap in this area that you would like to address? What is the main research question or aim that you want to address?
   • What are the specific objectives for the proposed research that follow from this?
   • Why is the proposed research significant and why does it matter (either theoretically or empirically)?

2 Background to the project (Literature Review)
   (Provide a brief account of the existing knowledge in the field the project is part of and show how the project will contribute to new knowledge. Explain how your project is relevant to the research at Department of Economics – for individual researchers, research groups or projects.)

3 Research question(s) and expected findings (hypothesis)
   (Describe the question(s) you want to answer through your project, and briefly outline what answer(s) you expect to find on the basis of previous research and theoretical background. Your research questions and hypotheses should focus and delimit the topic.)

4 Research Design - Method
   (Give an account of the methodological foundation for your project and any research-ethical problems linked to the project. Describe the underlying data and source material that will be used and how these will be collected and analyzed. If your project involves an experimental approach, what specific hypothesis or hypotheses will you address? What specific techniques will you use to test the hypothesis, such as laboratory procedures, interviews, questionnaires, modeling, simulation, text analysis, use of secondary data sources, etc. What practical considerations are there; for example, what equipment, facilities, and other resources will be required? What relevant
skills / experience do you have with the proposed methods? Are there particular ethical issues that will need to be considered (for example, all projects using human participants require ethical approval)? Are there any potential problems / difficulties that you foresee (for example, delays in gaining access to special populations or materials) that might affect your rate of progress?)

5 Proposed dissemination - Timetable
(Outline your proposed outputs: your plans for communicating / publishing your doctoral project – articles, monographs, lectures, etc.)

6 Progress plan
(Outline briefly how you intend to organize your doctoral work over six semesters, including any planned or anticipated periods of study outside the University of Oslo and/or field work. We do not expect you to know about individual courses, seminars, etc. that will be included in the training component.)

8 Literature references
(The reference list must be sorted alphabetically by author.)

- Basic Format for Books:

- Article or Chapter in an Edited Book:

- A Translation:

- An article in a journal:

- An article in conference proceedings:
- A Magazine Article (from the internet)

- An Internet Journal Article with No Print Equivalent

- A Government document:

- An Online Full-text Dissertation:

- An E-Book:

  Electronic version of republished book, the retrieval statement takes the place of publisher, location and name:


- An Online Newspaper Article:

- Online encyclopedia

- A Web Document