

Drawing up a Research Proposal

You are required to submit a full research proposal in advance of applying for a place on a PhD programme. A research proposal is basically a plan covering all aspects of the research process.

The proposal should include:

- Assignment cover page
- Introduction
- Background: Theoretical/policy and evidence context (short literature review)
- Research Question(s)
- Research aims and objectives
- Overall design and methods
- Proposed sample: description, size and access
- Data collection
- Plan for data analysis
- Ethical considerations
- Timeline

Length: approximately 7-10 pages A4 (not including cover page references and appendices)

Following submission to your desired supervisor they will provide feedback in relation to the feasibility of the proposed study and whether they have the expertise to supervise the research.