Name: Title of Thesis: Date / Version:

Research Design Canvas

Problem / Phenomenon
Does a real-world problem(s) motivate the project?
What are the main phenomenon and specific sub-phenomena being investigated?

Assumptions / Paradigm
Is the research based upon particular philosophical assumptions?
Does the research operate within a specific paradigm?

Literatures
What literatures, subareas, or constellations will be used?
What are the key articles / studies?
Will each literature play a supporting or motivating role?

Observations and Arguments
What themes and issues are evident in the literatures?
What gaps and / or problems are evident in the literatures?
What are the costs or risks of the gaps / problems?
Which are pre-existing and which are identified by you?

Research Questions
What are the research questions?
What are the benefits / value of investigating them?
Are there any tentative hypotheses?

Theory
What theoretical ideas / model / framework / concepts will be used or developed in the project?
What role will theory play in the project?

Contributions
What are the potential contributions (empirical, theoretical, practical, methodological) of the research?
Who are the key stakeholders and what benefits will the research provide to them?

Methodology / Design
What is the overall design or methodology for the study?
What are the key principles or objectives of the methodology?

Methods
What methods of data collection and analysis will be utilized?
What are the key features or strengths of each method?

Sample / Context
What sample and sampling methods will be used?
What aspects of the context are likely to be important?

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