

IS299 - Review of Chapter 1

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1 Reminder

Purpose of Research



The purpose of research is to conduct objective investigation and analysis, *not to provide justification for a particular agenda or viewpoint.*

2 Thesis Structure

Thesis Chapters



1. Introduction
2. Related Literature
3. Theoretical & Conceptual Framework
4. Methodology
5. Results & Discussions
6. Conclusion
7. Recommendation
8. Appendix

Thesis Structure: What it answers



Chapter	What it answers
Introduction	What is the problem and objective of this research?
Related Literature	What does existing literature say about this topic?
Theoretical & Conceptual Framework	What theories and conceptual models guide this research?
Methodology	How will this research be conducted?
Results & Discussions	What are the findings and what do they mean?
Conclusion	What can we conclude?
Recommendation	What can we recommend as further studies?
Appendix	What supplementary materials support this research?

3 Chapter 1

Sections of Chapter 1 (Introduction)



1. Background
2. Rationale of the Study
 - Statement of the Problem
3. Research Questions
4. Objective of the Study
5. Research Hypotheses
6. Significance of the Study
7. Scope of the Study
8. Thesis Organization

Introduction Sections



Section	Description
Background	Establishes the context and existing knowledge that makes your topic understandable and relevant.
Rationale of the Study	Justifies why your research is needed by identifying gaps or problems in current knowledge.
Research Questions	States the specific inquiries your study will investigate.
Objective of the Study	Formally declares what your research aims to accomplish.
Research Hypotheses	Predicts the expected relationships or outcomes between variables.
Significance of the Study	Explains who will benefit from your findings and how.
Scope of the Study	Defines the boundaries and limitations of what your research will cover.
Thesis Organization	Provides a roadmap of how the thesis is structured chapter by chapter.

Research Questions



Criteria	Description
Clarity	It should be clearly stated and unambiguous, so readers understand exactly what is being asked.
Feasibility	It should be answerable through research within your time, resource, and practical constraints.
Relevance	It should matter to your field and contribute meaningfully to existing knowledge or practice.
Specificity	It should be narrow and focused enough to be manageable, not too broad or vague.
Researchability	It should be investigable through empirical observation, data collection, or analysis rather than purely philosophical or opinion-based.
Originality	It should address something not already definitively answered, offering new insight.
Appropriateness	It should match your research design and methodology (quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods).

Examples of Weak Research Questions



1. Is Islam peaceful? (too subjective, not researchable)
2. What is Islam? (too broad, too foundational)
3. Why do all Muslims believe the same things? (assumes false premise, too vague)
4. Did Prophet Muhammad exist? (already established historically, limited research value)
5. How can we make Islam more modern? (prescriptive, not descriptive research)

Examples of Weak Research Questions



1. Can blockchain be used for Zakat? (It can be answered simply with “yes” or “no,” which doesn’t allow for deep investigation.)
2. What are the ahadith supporting conservations of water? (Doesn’t allow deep analysis, it can be answered easily by simply extracting the ahadith.)
3. What are the key principles governing juvenile delinquency under Shari’ah law and the Philippines legal system? (Foundational, meaning it is already given by these two legal systems)

Number of Research Questions



No universal rule, but somewhere between 3-4 for master thesis to be manageable