

# Overview of the DBA process



# High Level Process 1/2

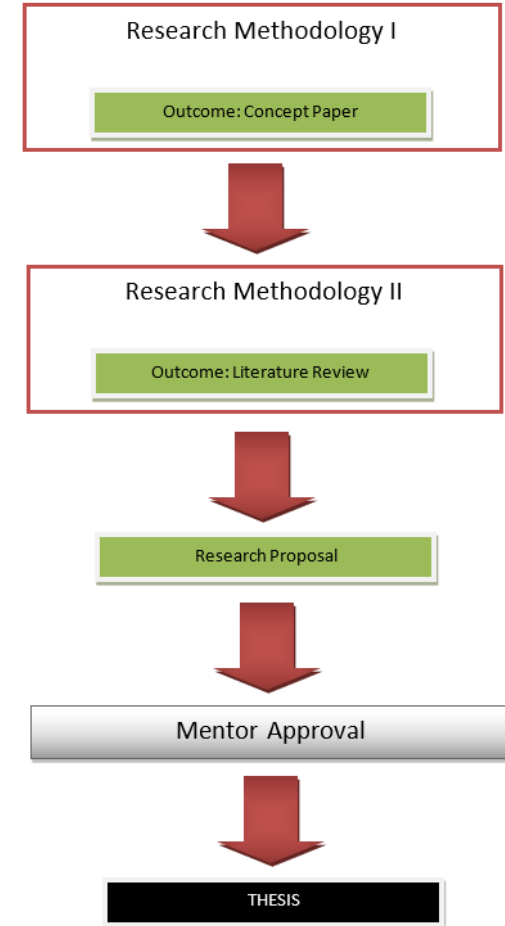
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The DBA is composed of 2 core courses:

- Research Methodology I
- Research Methodology II

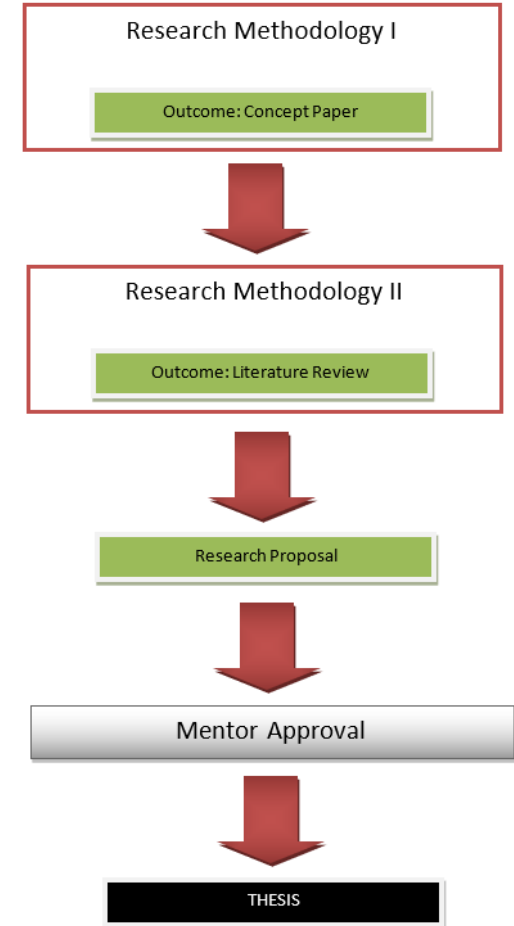
The output of the RMI is the **Concept paper**.

The output of the RMII is the **Literature Review**.



# High Level Process 2/2

- The **concept paper + literature review** are the **main foundations** of the **research proposal**.
- Research proposal is the first important milestone
- You should start writing Research Proposal ONLY once you complete RM1 and RM2 outcomes (concept paper and literature review)
- All interactions should be done with your mentor !



# Process

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## 1. Complete Research Methodology 1

- Submit the **concept paper** to your mentor
- Mentor has to approve the concept paper

## 2. Complete Research Methodology 2

- Submit the **literature review** to your mentor
- Mentor has to approve the literature review

3. Once mentor has approved both RM1 and RM2 outcomes, you can start writing the Research Proposal

4. Submit the Research Proposal to your mentor

5. Once accepted and approved by your mentor, mentor will submit to the research committee and ask for their approval

6. Upon the approval, you can start writing your thesis

# Timelines

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**NOTE:** Below timelines are approximative

## Year 1: Concept Paper + Literature Review

- Concept Paper is to be submitted approx. 2-6 months after the start of the DBA program
- Literature Review should be submitted approx. 2-6 months after the Research Concept is completed

## Year 2: Research Proposal Approval + Thesis

# Concept Paper

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What is it?

- Short summary of minimum 2-3 pages with maximum that should not exceed 6 pages) which provides high-level ideas of what the student would like to research
- The concept paper aim is to capture the thoughts and ideas and present the intended research direction
- Mentor will check the feasibility of the project (is it realistic? Achievable?), provide high level feedback on the topic itself and eventually briefly discuss with the student the topic itself
- Concept paper IS NOT meant to be advanced academic paper nor research proposal but rather a first structured discussion between the mentor and the student

# Literature Review

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What is it:

- LR should provide systematic, thorough and advanced summary of past literature
- LR should have minimum of 3-4 pages and maximum of 15 pages
- It should be systematic enough to provide theoretical justification and highlight what the GAP is with past academic knowledge and what opportunities are with the new research that is needed
- LR outcome should clearly highlight GAP, possible research questions, subquestions (if any), major research theme
- However, LR does not need to be **100% COMPLETE at this stage**

# Research Proposal

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- What is it:
  - Main guiding document that provides
    - **what** you will investigate?
    - **why** it's important?
    - **how** you will do it?
  - Key document that needs to be approved by the Research Committee (composed of 3 members)
  - You should use the TEMPLATE that is provided on the DBA portal to submit the Research Proposal !



# Purpose of a research proposal



**Relevance**



**Context**



**Approach**



**Feasibility**

# Main parts of the research proposal

Cover page

Introduction

Literature review

Research design

Reference list

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Good luck !

