

Student Project Proposal Guidelines

You are required to submit a Study Project (research) proposal next week.

- The Group Leader can assist the student in preparation of the final proposal. This assignment is for an early draft. The proposal should be written in such a way that an educated reader, who may not necessarily be a specialist in that particular research area, can understand the gist of your research and why it is significant. At the same time, the writing should be sufficiently technically detailed, especially when it comes to methodology, that an expert reader will be convinced that you know what you are doing and that the proposed research is feasible.
- Maximum length is 1-2 pages (not including references, figures or tables). The word count is to be listed on the title page. Formatting guidelines are a font of Times New Roman 12 or equivalent, 2.5 cm margins, and double line spacing. The proposal can include figures.
- The proposal should explicitly state the problem being addressed or gap in knowledge to be filled and/or Research Question, describe the objectives and research methods to be employed, and include a review of the principal relevant published literature.

Some Tips

The Introduction should give a clear understanding of what the proposal is about, why the work is worth doing, and how the results will contribute to general knowledge in that entrepreneurship and innovation. It provides context within which the rest of the proposal is read. Invest time in getting this section right, and the rest is relatively easy.

The proposal needs a thread of logic. It should build from a statement of the research problem or gap in knowledge, and follow an outline of detailed objectives that must be achieved (or questions that must be answered) if the problem is to be solved. The presentation of methodology should be clearly connected to the stated objectives.

The literature review must be up to present date. Discuss published work pertinent to the proposal. You do not have to provide an actual literature review here. However, you must brief point to the theories or theoretical framework you will be using.

Provide an assessment of the likely significance of the work. How will it advance our understanding or thinking? What gap will it fill? What technical breakthrough will it produce?

You may require a number of iterations to produce a final version of the proposal. This is your first draft.

Your Group Leader has a responsibility to provide you with feedback on the writing before you submit it, but you must in turn be professional in providing her or him with enough time to do this.

