



A2: Research Proposal (SFR)

Assignment

Background and Objectives

The purpose of this assignment is for you to get an insight into the prerequisites and the background understanding that are necessary before a research project is initiated. In this assignment you are to define a research project and prepare a project proposal for a research project within the topic area that you investigated in your systematic review.

Tasks

This assignment is performed in groups of two members. The group remains the same for assignments 1-3. Exceptions have to be agreed with the course responsible.

You create a research project proposal using the master thesis project proposal template available on the web page for the MSc Theses (https://studentportal.bth.se/web/studentportal.nsf/web.xsp/faculty_o). It shall be 4-5 pages long (including references and everything). You find guidelines for writing a research proposal in [1-2].

1. Download and study the thesis proposal template and the thesis proposal rubrics (evaluation criteria).
 - Special attention shall be made to the sections 1-5. The download links are provided below.
2. Create a research project proposal by using the thesis proposal template.
 - You shall introduce the subject area and topic, present an overview of current research in the field (properly referencing articles), identify a gap, and identify how your work fills that gap.
 - You shall select a suitable research methodology, describe how it will be used in this specific case, and present an argument why this research methodology is suitable for your research project. Within the research methodology section, you shall also describe perceived validity threats, and what you intend to do to mitigate the threats. You shall define how you expect to analyse the results of your research project. You shall present a clear argument why this analysis method is the most suitable for your particular research project and research methodology.
3. Check the quality of your proposal.
 - Check formalia: is the proposal written with proper grammar and spelling? Have you run a spell checker on the proposal? Is the title apt for the described research project? Did you use the required number of pages (not

Information

Published: den 12 januari 2014
by [Fricker, Samuel](#)

Deadline: den 21 februari 2014
12:00 **Deadline has passed.**

Mandatory: Yes

Assessment: [A - F](#)

Plagiarism control: Yes

Allowed file types in answers:

Adobe Acrobat (pdf), Internet file (html/htm), Microsoft Word (doc/docx), Open Office (sxw/odt), RTF (rtf), Text document (txt)

Anonymous: No

Use groups: Student-defined groups

less and not more)?

- Check content: Is the background sufficiently described to get a clear understanding of the current situation and the problem that the research project aims to address? Do the aims and objectives have an academic content and justification? Are the research questions aligned with the aims and objectives? Do they describe relevant research that will contribute to the aims and objectives? Are the expected outcomes related to the aims and objectives and the research questions? Is the described research methodology suitable for the described aims and objectives? If not, why not and what would you suggest instead? Why?
- Evaluate and improve your proposal based on the thesis proposal rubrics.

4. Submit your project proposal using the link below (and ****not**** by e-mail).

Evaluation

The research project proposal is evaluated based on the criteria defined in the master thesis rubrics. See link below.

Supporting Material

Links to the project plan (thesis proposal) template: [\[MS Word\]](#) [\[LaTeX\]](#).

- Use this template: [\[MS Word\]](#) [\[LaTeX\]](#)
- Attachment to this assignment: guidelines of what to write in what chapter of the project plan (do not use the table of contents as a template though).

Link to the master thesis proposal rubrics: Section A.1 in [\[PDF\]](#)

References

[1] Creswell (2003): "Writing Strategies and Ethical Considerations", in *Research Design: Qualitative and Quantitative, and Mixed Method Approaches*. Sage.

[2] Robson (2002): "Appendix A: Writing a Project Proposal", in *Real World Research*. Blackwell.



 [Thesis_Proposal_Template \(old, depreciated\).pdf](#)

Answer

Submitted	den 21 februari 2014 11:48 by KRISHNA CHAITANYA KONDURU
Participants	KRISHNA CHAITANYA KONDURU, V N ANJANAYA UDAY MAJETI
Title	A2: Research Proposal (SFR)
Status	Evaluated

Assessed by Samuel Fricker

Assessment C

Comment Total – **26/36 – 72.2%** (Grade C)

Good. Need to concentrate on the selection on research methods. The scope is too broad, limit to one study only.

===Contents===

Problem identification and formulation: 3

- practical problem + context - 3
- description of state-of-art (summary) – 3

Practical problem could be refined. For instance it is not clear if the organization benefits or employee benefits are being addressed (Which is clear in the aim but not in problem statement). Good paper selection however summary is missing.

Evaluation: 5

- knowledge gap - 4
- aims/objectives – 3
- RQ -3

Good. Be more specific in objectives and research question for instance, mention "organizational" benefits and barriers.

Method selection and application: 1

- research methodology - 0
- sampling and data collection -2
- data analysis to answer the RQ -0

SLR is not acceptable, as it should have been already done in assignment 1. Interviews is not a research method, it is data collection method. Interviews are used to collect data however the description must be elaborated for instance, what data is collected. Sampling needs to well defined, for instance the term "software professionals", is too generic. Data analysis is missing.

Planning: 1

- reasonable for a 1-month work of 2 people - 0
- risks known and under control – 2

Conducting two studies i.e. Finding challenges and providing guidelines are two studies. This is not realistic in one month. Time constraint risk is not under control.

===Presentation===

Disposition: 4

- toc is according to template - 4
- expected contents are at the right place – 4

Adherence to formal rules and templates: 4

- template is used (formal part) - 4
- 4-5 page length -4

Description of work: 2

- tasks: e.g. work-breakdown structure or Gantt chart: 2
- optional: division of work between group members –

What do you mean by proposal comparison? Constructing literature review is done before constructing search string.

Analysis and **argumentation**: 2

- credibility of research gap - 4
- credibility of good research method selection – 0
- credibility of the plan + risk management - 2

Correct research methods not selected. Plan is not feasible for the given time. Some risks are not under control

Language 4

- english grammar and spelling - 4
- style - 4
- presentation and use of the references – 4

Answer

Files



A2.pdf