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What is proposal

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What is research?

- The systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions.

What is proposal ?

- A plan or suggestion, especially a formal or written one, put forward for consideration by others.
- A research proposal “is a document that outlines how you propose to undertake your research studies” (Mouton 2001:p.44).

Definition of research proposal

- A research proposal is a document written by a researcher that provides a detailed description of the proposed program,
- it is like an outline of the entire research process that gives a reader a summary of the information discussed in a project.

Importance of research proposal

- Helps examine what the researcher intends to do.
- Research proposal can serve as a document of contract for the project.
- Research proposals can be effective starting places to discuss projects with your professors, too.
- The research proposal is able to give an overview of the research project so that other people understand the scope of the research, the significance of the research, as well as your proposed methodology and chosen research method.

Advantages of research proposal

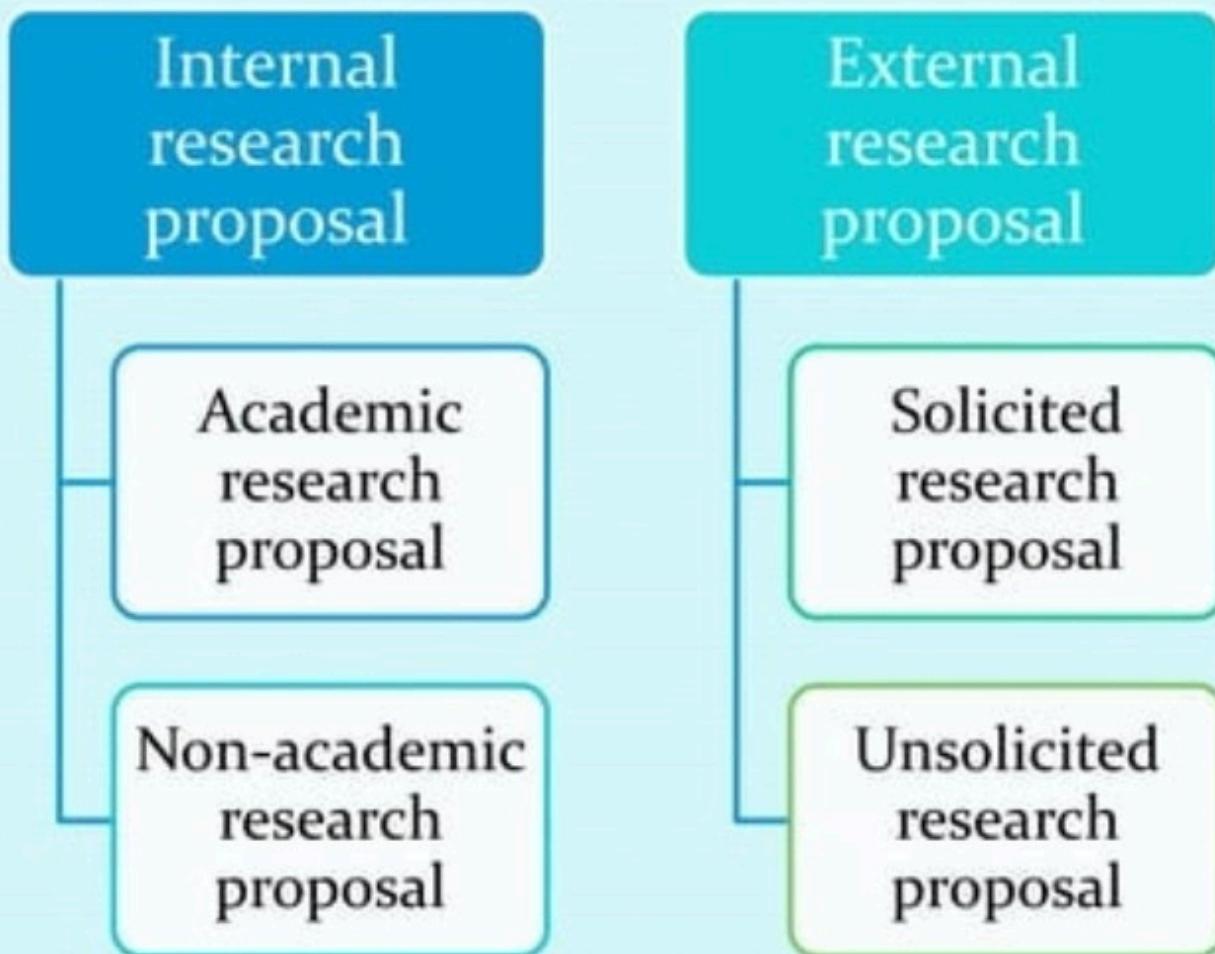
- Fund to support your research
- Allow you to review and critically evaluate your current research program
- Convince yourself and others that your research is worth supporting
- Keep you focused on your research program
- Develop novel ideas during writing proposal

Relationship of research proposal with research

- Research proposal is a plan ,and research is action.
- Research proposal is compulsory for approving proposed research.
- Research proposal is a schedule and research is activity.
- Research proposal is a mirror of research
- Research proposal is a blue print of research.
- Research proposal can serve as a document of contract for the project.

Types of research proposal

- There are two major types of research proposal;



Internal research proposal

Academic :

- An academic proposal is the first step in producing a thesis or major project. Its intent is to convince a supervisor or academic committee that your topic and approach are sound,

Non-academic:

This one is not for degree requirement that is submitted by a university or a college teacher to some research organization.

External research proposal

Solicited:

- Solicited proposals are those that are written and submitted in response to the issuance of a "Request for Proposals" (RFP), a document that identifies a specific research problem of interest to the funding agency for which they are specifically seeking a solution. Interested investigator then submits a "concept" or "white paper" briefly outlining their proposed solution to the problem. If the funding agency or company is interested, they may then request that the investigator submit a full proposal for consideration of funding.

External research proposal

Unsolicited :

- Unsolicited proposals are those proposals that are submitted by an investigator in response to a "general call" for proposals that is issued by a funding agency or company in a field or area of study.

Component of research proposal

Title

- Precise and accurate
- Unambiguous
- Avoid extremely long titles

Component of research proposal

Introduction

- Orient the readers towards the topic.
- Explain the importance and relevance of the topic
- Justifies the choice of the topic.
- Research question/hypothesis .

Component of research proposal

Statement of the problem

- “The problem statement describes the context for the study and it also identifies the general analysis approach”(Wiersma, 1995, p.404)
- Should indicate why the researcher needs to be done and what will be its relevance.
- Conveys information about a research problem.

Component of research proposal

Literature review

- It shares with the reader the results of other studies that are closely related to the study being reported (Fraenkel & Wallen, 1990)
- It prevents the duplication of work that has been done before.
- Theoretical framework
- A summary.

Component of research proposal

Hypotheses

- Build the case to support the hypothesis with literature and data---no reinventing the wheel
- Seeing is believing: Use schematic figures or diagrams to help reviewers understand your model and idea
- State your hypothesis clearly in the abstract and specific aims; alternative hypothesis in case

Component of research proposal

Objective of study

- The general objective of a study states what researcher expect to achieve by the study in general terms.
- What to achieve.?

Component of research proposal

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Component of research proposal

Work Plan

- Include the major phases of the project:
- estimate when you will start each stage of the work, and how long it will take.
- Sequencing, flow and timeline of the study.

Component of research proposal

Methodology

- ❖ Subjective
 - Interviews
 - Questionnaires
 - Discussions
 - Surveys
- ❖ Objective
 - Experimental
 - Use of measuring devices
 - Use of recording devices.

Component of research proposal

RESEARCH DESIGN

- Descriptive case study
- Mixed Method
- Quantitative Method Design
- Qualitative Method Design

Component of research proposal

POPULATION AND SAMPLING

- Indicate your sampling techniques , e.g.:
- Quantitative
- Cluster Random Sampling
- Size of sample
- Population
- Experimental and control groups
- Prevention of bias, etc.

Component of research proposal

References

List all references cited in the proposal.

Make sure these references are:-

Up-to-date

Relevant

Original source



The common error in proposal writing

- Too much detail on minor issues, but not enough detail on major issues
- Too many citation lapses and incorrect references
- Sloppy writing
- Failure to state all of the basic assumptions that are relevant to the study.
- Concerns irrelevant assumptions.
- Selecting unsubstantiated assumptions which cannot be defended by any logic, empirical evidence.

Evaluation of research proposal

1. Problem identification:

- Is the problem/line of enquiry clearly defined?
- Is the basic research problem well formulated, or is it poorly and vaguely structured?
- Is it briefly and concisely stated?

Evaluation of research proposal

2. Background to the research problem

- Has there been an adequate description of the background to the problem either under a separate heading or as part of the literature?

3. Literature review

- Is there clear evidence of a thorough review of the literature?
- Is there a theoretical engagement with the relevant literature?

Evaluation of research proposal

4. Conceptual framework

- Has a suitable hypothesis (or hypotheses) been formulated, or has a suitable research question (or research questions) been stated?

5. Objectives

- Have the objectives been stated clearly?

6. Research design

- Is the project and research design well structured and outlined, or is it poorly articulated?
- Has the research methodology been articulated clearly?

Evaluation of research proposal

7. Significance

- Why is it important to undertake this research? Whom will it benefit or to whom will it be important?
- Has the expected outcome (or outcomes) of the research been clearly identified?

8. Feasibility

- Is the problem researchable and is it feasible? Do the preliminary data and available resources support its feasibility?
- Does the candidate's academic profile or potential support his/her ability to accomplish the project?

Evaluation of research proposal

9. Other general comments

- Is the proposal well structured or poorly compiled? If the latter, what should be done to make it a well-structured proposal?

10. Language

- Has the research proposal been proofread and edited?

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Thanks