

LATEX THESIS TEMPLATE

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Components of a Research Proposal

The title

- Try to come up with a title that is **unique** and at the same time easy to remember.
- It should also make a **lasting impression** to the reader and make them want to come back and read your proposal.
- The title must also capture the **main concepts of the study**
- As the research process is **lengthy** it is important that you choose a topic that you are so **curious about** that you remain motivated for the duration of the research process.
- Select a topic that you will be able to complete **within the time frame** that you have for your research.

Background of the Study

- The background to the topic of your intended research must be clear and precise. It must not only include an in-depth explanation of the key points of your subject but also all the developments in the field as well as their timelines.
- The researcher must also explain the compelling interest in the research issue as well as the personal interest (if any) in the topic.
- This section must also indicate the specific area within which the topic falls in your particular field of study or subject.
- Also, how will the proposed study contribute to a particular field? In other words, the impact and the significance in a subject area must be clearly outlined. The target audience must also be clearly described.

Statement of the Problem

- State **why, how and what** you are solving.
- Identify the gap that you are solving.

Objectives

- It is important that the objectives are in alignment with the research questions.
- The objectives must indicate what the aim of the research study is.
- In fact, objectives give you a clear indication of the steps that you will take to achieve the aim of the research.
- The objectives must be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound.

Justification

- Give reasons why you feel the research is worth.

Limitations of the Study

- Identify the limitations of the study.

Scope of the study

- Give the scope of the study

Basic Concepts

- Give the basic definitions that you may refer to later.

Research Questions

- If any include them

Literature Review

- Have the following sub-sections:
 - i. Introduction
 - ii. Existing researchers and their gaps
 - iii. Summary and Critique

Methodology

- Outline clearly how you will achieve the objectives.
- This is done part by part.

References

- Done in APA style

Work Plan

- Your schedule for the research must be stated clearly including the projected timelines for the various stages of your study.

Budget

- The budget that you intend to spent on your work

Contents of Title Page

- The contents of this page is per the [outline](#) of the Department of Pure and Applied Sciences.
- I will demonstrate on how to format the document.
- For more details we will explore on the contents section by section.

Packages

```
1 \documentclass[12pt]{report}
2 \usepackage{amsmath,amssymb,amsfonts}
3 \usepackage{mathtools}
4 \usepackage{pdflscape,multicol,multirow}
5 \usepackage[T1]{fontenc}
6 \usepackage[utf8]{inputenc}
7 \usepackage{apacite}
8 \usepackage{comment}
9 \pagestyle{plain}
10 \usepackage{multirow}
11 \usepackage[table]{xcolor}
12 \usepackage{caption}
13 \usepackage{multirow}
14 \usepackage{gensymb}
15 \usepackage{subfigure}
16 \newtheorem{definition}{Definition}[section]
17 \usepackage[toc,page]{appendix}
```

Packages Cont'd

```
1 \usepackage{booktabs}
2 \usepackage{tabularx}
3 \usepackage{adjustbox}
4 \usepackage{footnote}
5 \usepackage{float}
6 \usepackage {hyperref}
7 \usepackage{titlesec}
8 \usepackage{graphicx}
9 \usepackage{pdfpages}
10 \usepackage{lipsum}
11 \usepackage{fixmath}
12 \usepackage{graphicx}
13 \usepackage{setspace}
14 \usepackage{nomencl}
15 \usepackage{enumerate}
16 \usepackage{adjustbox}
17 \usepackage{enumitem}
18 \usepackage{pdfpages}
```

References Section

```
1 \maketitle
2 \usepackage[authoryear]{natbib}
3 \renewcommand{\bibname}{REFERENCES}
4 \renewcommand{\refname}{REFERENCES}
5 \renewcommand{\bibsection}{\section*{\hspace{4cm}REFERENCES}}
```

Table of Contents

```
1 \renewcommand{\contentsname}{\centering Table of Contents}
2 \renewcommand{\listtablename}{List of Tables}
```

Paper Dimension

```
1 \usepackage{geometry}
2 \geometry{a4paper, total={210mm,297mm}, left=40mm, right=25mm, top=40mm, bottom=25mm}
3 \providecommand{\printnomenclature}{\printglossary}
4 \providecommand{\makenomenclature}{\makeglossary}
```

Theorems, Definitions

```
1 \renewcommand*\env@matrix[1][\arraystretch]{%
2   \edef\arraystretch{\#1}%
3   \hskip -\arraycolsep
4   \let\@ifnextchar\new@ifnextchar
5   \array{*`c@MaxMatrixCols c}%
6 \makeatother
7 \setcounter{tocdepth}{3}
8 \setcounter{secnumdepth}{3}
9 \newtheorem{thm}{Theorem}[section]
10 \newtheorem{theorem}{Theorem}[section]
11 \newtheorem{deff}{Definition}[section]
12 \newtheorem{prop}{Proposition}[section]
13 \newtheorem{lemma}{Lemma}[section]
14 \maketitle
15 \renewcommand{\baselinestretch}{1.5}
16 \makeatletter
17 \makeatother
18 \setlength{\parindent}{0pt}
```

Title Page

```
1 \begin{titlepage}
2   \begin{center}
3     {\large TITLE OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT/PROPOSAL\par}
4     \vspace{5cm}
5     \begin{center}
6       {\large STUDENT NAME}
7       \par\end{center}{\large \par}
8   \end{center}
9   \par
10  \begin{center}
11    \vspace{5cm}
12    \par\end{center}
13  \begin{center}\textit{A research proposal/project submitted in partial
14    fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of (Insert the name of the
15    Degree) of Kirinyaga University.}\%\end{center}
16  \end{center}
17  \vspace{3.5cm}
18  \begin{center}
19    2024
```

Declaration

```
1 \begin{center}
2     \noindent\pagenumbering{roman}
3 \end{center}
4 \section*{\hspace{5cm}DECLARATION}
5 %\addcontentsline{toc}{section}{DECLARATION}
6 \addcontentsline{toc}{chapter}{DECLARATION}
7 \noindent This research proposal/project is my original work and has not been presented elsewhere fo:
8
9 \vspace{1cm}
10
11 \indent %
12 \begin{tabular}{l}
13     Signature..... Date.....
14     XXXX \tabularnewline \\
15
16     PSXXXX \tabularnewline
17 \end{tabular} \\
18 \vspace{0.2cm}
```

Dedication

```
1 \section*{\hspace{4cm}DEDICATION}
2 \%addcontentsline{toc}{section}{DEDICATION}
3 \addcontentsline{toc}{chapter}{DEDICATION}
4 To
5 \textbf{\pagebreak{}}
```

Acknowldegement

```
1 \section*{\hspace{4cm}ACKNOWLEDGMENT}
2 \addcontentsline{toc}{chapter}{ACKNOWLEDGMENT}
3 \clearpage
```

Abstract

```
1 \section*{\hspace{5cm} ABSTRACT}
2 \addcontentsline{toc}{chapter}{ABSTRACT}
```

Table of Contents

```
1 \begin{onehalfspace}
2   \pagebreak{} \tableofcontents{}
3 \end{onehalfspace} \newpage
```

Abbreviations and Acronym

```
1 \section*{\hspace{2cm}ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS}
2 \addcontentsline{toc}{chapter}{ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS}
3 \begin{itemize}[label={}]
4   \item{\makebox[3cm]{AIC}\hfill} Akaike Information Criterion
5 \end{itemize}
```

List of tables

```
1 \addcontentsline{toc}{chapter}{LIST OF TABLES}
2 \listoftables
```

List of Figures

```
1 \addcontentsline{toc}{chapter}{LIST OF FIGURES}
2 \listoffigures
3 \pagebreak
```

Chapter One

```
1 \chapter{INTRODUCTION}
2   \pagenumbering{arabic}
3   \section{Background of the Study}
4   \section{Statement of the Problem}
5   \section{Justification}
6   \section{Objectives}
7     \subsection{General Objective}
8     \subsection{Specific Objective}
9   \section{Scope of the Study}
10  \section{Limitations of the Study}
11  \section{Basic Concepts}
```

Chapter Two

```
1 \chapter{ LITERATURE REVIEW }
2   \section{Introduction}
3   \section{Theoretical Review}
4   Citations can be made as \cite{Abdelhady2020}.
5   \section{Critique of Existing Literature}
6   \section{Summary}
7   \section{Research Gap}
```

Chapter Three

```
1 \chapter{METHODOLOGY}
2 \section{Introduction}
3 \section{Proposed Methods}
4 \begin{prop}
5     This Proposition is about....
6 \end{prop}
7
8 \begin{theorem}
9     This Theorem gives....
10 \end{theorem}
```

Chapter Four

```
1 \chapter{RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS}
2   \section{Introduction}
3   \section{Simulation Results}
4   \section{Empirical Results}
```

Chapter Five

```
1 \chapter{CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS}
2   \section{Introduction}
3   \section{Conclusions}
4   \section{Recommendations}
5     \subsection{Recommendations on Research Findings}
6     \subsection{Recommendations for Further Research}
```

References

```
1 \addcontentsline{toc}{chapter}{References}
2 \bibliographystyle{apacite}
3 \bibliography{laconce.bib}
```

Appendix

1

\chapter*{APPENDIX I}

Thank You