**Confirmation of Candidature Research Proposal**

<<Title of Thesis>>

<<Name>>

<<Email>>

**Award:** Master of Philosophy / Doctor of Ministry / Doctor of Philosophy

**Supervisors**

<<Name of Principal Supervisor>>

<<Name of Associate Supervisor>>

Proposal Submission Date: dd/mm/yyyy

|  |
| --- |
| * Your proposal should be 5000-6000 words, including footnotes or in-text references, but excluding reference list/bibliography and appendices
* The template below offers general guide for how to structure your proposal. The proposal should include, but is not limited to, the following information:
	+ Title of the thesis
	+ Abstract (approx. 150 words)
	+ Background and why this research is significant
	+ Research question and overview, including how the work represents a contribution to knowledge
	+ Literature review: What is the theoretical/intellectual/disciplinary context of your research? What are the theoretical underpinnings of your research? How will your project relate to existing research in the same field? (Usually about 3000 words)
	+ Research methods/approach: explain how you plan to conduct your research (e.g., textual analysis, survey/questionnaire, interview, etc.). Justify your approach: how will this approach help you answer your research question?
	+ Proposed table of contents/structure of the thesis
	+ Work plan and timetable of key milestones
	+ Conclusion
	+ Reference list.
	+ An appendix containing a draft of any research instruments that will be used (e.g. survey questions, interview questions), in cases where your thesis uses human research. (Appendices are not included in your wordcount).
* It is also a good idea to look at the samples provided.
* You must use 12-point Times New Roman font, 1.5 line spacing.

**\*\*\*\*DELETE THIS BOX BEFORE SUBMISSION\*\*\*\*** |

# Title

The proposed title of your thesis.

# Abstract

The abstract is a summary of your Research Proposal and should be about 150 words.

# Background and Significance

Provide some background on this topic, as well as an explanation of why your research is important.

# Research Question & Overview

Clearly define your main research question. Give an overview of the project and of how you plan to answer the question.

# Literature Review

What is the theoretical/intellectual/disciplinary context of your research? What are the theoretical underpinnings of your research? How will your project relate to existing research in the same field? (Usually about 3000 words)

# Research Methods/Approach

Research methods/approach: explain how you plan to conduct your research (e.g., textual analysis, survey/questionnaire, interview, etc.). Justify your approach: how will this approach help you answer your research question? If necessary, clarify how you will limit your project to make it achievable. For example, which writers you will include, even which of their multiple works you will address; who will you survey; what period of history will be your focus.

For empirical studies, please include draft research instruments, etc., as appendices.

# Work Plan and Timetable

Outline a schedule for completion of your thesis with proposed deadlines for each major chapter and for submission, including your timetable for submitting for Confirmation of Candidature and, where needed, ethics approval and data collection.

# Conclusion

# Reference List

Format the reference list/bibliography according to your appropriate referencing format.

# Research Instruments

# An appendix containing a draft of any research instruments that will be used (e.g. survey questions, interview questions), in cases where your thesis uses human research. (Appendices are not included in your wordcount).