OFFICE OF RESEARCH SERVICES AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Charles Sturt University

Initial Research Outline - (PhD and Masters)

To enable this electronic form, you must first SAVE it then REOPEN as a PDF file (it will not function properly when used in a browser window). This template is to be completed by those applying for admission to a Higher Degree by Research (HDR) program or a HDR Scholarship. Existing candidates who have had their research proposal approved as part of completing their probationary requirements should complete the Research Proposal Approval form available here.

Please prepare an outline of your proposed research project and where possible have it reviewed by your nominated supervisor before uploading it in the documents section of your online application.

It is understood that should your application be accepted there may be some variations to this proposal as your project progresses.

1. Candidate Details

Title		First Name		Last Name	

Faculty <select>

2. Research/project title

Provide a short descriptive title of no more than 150 characters, approx. 20 words.

Title

3. Research/project summary or abstract

In 200 words, comprehensible to a reader who is not a specialist in this field, summarise the aims, significance and expected outcomes of your proposed research. (max 1,500 characters, approx. 200 words)

Summary

4. Research/project details

Provide a brief statement, following the headers or similar to those provided below. You are urged to avoid use of jargon and to express your arguments clearly and concisely.

Introductory background and brief literature review (max 3,750 characters, approx. 500 words)

Aims/Objectives/Research questions

This section may include the hypothesis/proposition presented as a succinct and specific statement of research aims and objectives. (max 1,500 characters, approx. 200 words)

Research Problem

This section should include the nature of the issue or problem for investigation, and a brief explanation of how the research problem will be addressed. (max 1,500 characters, approx. 200 words)

Briefly outline your proposed methodology

This section should explain the research methods, data sources and data collection, and analysis procedures.

For example, how will you go about collecting information you need to address the research questions; will you use quantitative or qualitative methods; will the project involve experiments in labs or simulation environment, surveys, field observations or interviews. (This may include theoretical framework, if applicable) (max 3,750 characters, approx. 500 words)

Significance / expected contribution to the discipline

This section should provide justification for why your topic is important and worth researching. (max 1500 characters, approx. 200 words)

References cited/Bibliography of planned reading

Please provide one or both of the following in an appropriate and consistent referencing style:

•A list of the scholarly references cited in the proposal;

•A bibliography of planned reading.