

Initial Research Outline - (Professional Doctorate by Research)

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	<input type="text"/>	First Name	<input type="text"/>	Last Name	<input type="text"/>
Faculty <select>	<input type="text"/>				

2. Research/project title

In one or two sentences clearly state the topic within your profession and/or the main theme you propose. (max 150 characters, approx. 20 words)

Title	<input type="text"/>
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3. Research/project summary or abstract

In 200 words, comprehensible to a reader who is not a specialist in this field, provide a brief overview of your proposed research. (max 1,500 characters, approx. 200 words)

Summary	<input type="text"/>
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4. Research project background

How will your research develop or challenge existing professional practice, policy or theory?

Calling both upon your professional knowledge and the relevant literature, explain the background context for your research. Demonstrate that you understand what is currently being discussed about your intended research and what has already been published. What are the important issues and what are the research gaps/need for current research you have identified? (max 3,750 characters, approx. 500 words)

5. Research question and/or hypothesis; aims and objectives

What is the overriding question, hypothesis or proposition which frames your research?

What purpose will your research serve? This is also called your aim.

What are the objectives, or steps that you will take, to achieve your aim? Present in dot-form or sentence format (max 1,500 characters, approx. 200 words)

6. Research design and methodology

Provide an overview of the methodology and methods/techniques used for data collection and analysis.

What methodological approach will underpin your research and why? For example, your research could be quantitative and informed by a positivist approach; qualitative and informed by a constructivist approach; pragmatist utilising mixed methods.

Where will you collect data? What techniques/methods will you use to achieve the research aim, ie what methods will you use to collect and analyse your data? (max 3,750 characters, approx. 500 words)

7. Expected research contribution

At this preliminary stage, what significant contribution/s do you expect to make to professional practice, theory or policy? (max 1,500 characters, approx. 200 words)

9. References cited/Bibliography of planned reading

Please provide the following in an appropriate and consistent referencing style:

- A list of the scholarly references cited in the proposal.