



Write a PhD Research Proposal

Write a PhD research proposal as discussed in *Research Methods*. Download and use the [proposal template](#) provided on the course website. Do not deviate from the template style although you may deviate somewhat in the outline, color scheme, and logos if you wish. At a minimum, your proposal document should:

- describe the topic and significance of your research,
- give a problem statement or research hypothesis,
- identify what is new and novel about your research,
- identify why your research is difficult enough to earn a PhD,
- include a stunning Figure 1 that completely summarizes your research,
- given any background needed to understand the proposed research and plan,
- provide a history of your topic and a description of what is state-of-the-art,
- state your research objectives and work plan,
- give a schedule of tasks and milestones,
- list what will be delivered by the conclusion of your research,
- describe the tasks to be performed and the expected outcome of each,
- identify the risks associated with your research and how the risks will be mitigated,
- state how your progress and success will be measured, and
- include a list of all references cited.

Your proposal will be graded on how well you address the items in the above list and how well you incorporate the techniques taught in the *Research Methods* class into your proposal.

Submit via E-Mail as an Invitation to Serve on Your Committee

Submit your research proposal as a single-document PDF attached to an e-mail sent to the course instructor. The e-mail should be written as a formal invitation to serve as a member on your committee.

Note: it is understood that this e-mail is only intended to practice inviting committee members to be on your committee. It will in no way be interpreted as a real invitation to actually serve on your committee.