

Structure of MSc research proposal

The research proposal is an opportunity to present an organized research plan, demonstrate sufficient background knowledge, and present a coherent methodology. The research proposal is an opportunity to test the research hypothesis validity and research questions feasibility.

Basic structure of a research proposal should include the points and sections listed below

1. Abstract
2. Introduction (General and specific background, topic and definitions, previous studies, study area, gap in knowledge).
3. Working hypothesis
4. Research questions and objectives.
5. Methodology (techniques, field work, experimental setup, laboratory analysis, etc.)
6. Timetable: full plan of research
7. Preliminary results
8. References

Some important guidelines:

- Figures could be embedded within the proposal or appended after the references. All figures should be cited in the text in ascending order.
 - Reference list should correspond to the actual citation of studies in the text and figure captions.
 - Expected extent – about 10-15 pages (font size 12, space 1.5 line)
 - Writing should be concise and consistent.
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