

1

# Guidelines for submission of DOCTORAL RESEARCH PROPOSAL



Lingaya's Vidyapeeth, Faridabad

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**Lingaya's Vidyapeeth, Faridabad**

This document attempts to provide essential guidelines to Ph.D. candidates for preparation of their Research Proposal for consideration of the Departmental Research Committee (DRC) of the School of Management & Commerce/ Education/ Humanities and Social Sciences/ Law, Lingaya's Vidyapeeth.

### Research Proposal

1. **Introduction** - This is the brief outline of the proposed topic of research. Introducing the topic of study is the first step of writing the research proposal. It includes background and need of the study. It specifies the area and topic of the proposed research work.
2. **Significance (Relevance) of the Study** - The research proposal should show the worth and urgency of the study. It should indicate clearly how the results of the study can influence educational practice. The relevance of the proposed research must be indicated in the proposal. It should be clearly indicating the perception of the research work and should not be a mere repetition of the topic of research. This section could also include Research Questions if desired or required.
3. **Brief Review of Related Literature and Research Gap**- This is prepared after the scholar has studied the contemporary literature and researches done in the same area as available from doctoral research at Universities, current research journals, published reports of the organizations, issues needing research and enquiry in any area of activity of the organization, etc Present a brief review of literature from oldest to latest. Be selective and present only the relevant studies. Highlight important results and the drawback of the work. About one paragraph from each literature work (objective, what is done, procedure findings, limitations) can be mentioned. Follow some standard style (APA) for presenting literature work and listing the references at the end of the proposal. The research gap should be highlighted at the end of review of related literature. A research gap is essentially an unanswered question or unresolved problem in a field, which reflects a lack of existing research in that space. A research gap is a missing or unexplored area in existing literature that your study aims to address. To write a

compelling research gap, systematically identify what is missing, clearly state the problem, and position your proposed study to solve it.

4. **Statement of the Problem** - Statement of the problem is the same as the title. The exact title which will appear on the thesis, will be approved by the DRC. The proposed topic of research should be written in "Title Case" and should not be too lengthy.
5. **Operational Definition of the Key Terms** - It is necessary to define all unusual terms and concepts that could be misinterpreted. The technical words or terms (used in the title or research) having special meaning need to be defined operationally.
6. **Objectives of the Research** - What is to be achieved as an outcome of the research has to be visualized while mentioning the objectives of the research. Objectives should be given pointwise. Objectives are usually headed by infinitive verbs such as
  - To identify
  - To establish
  - To determine
  - To estimate
  - To develop
  - To compare
  - To analyze
  - To collect

7. **Assumptions/ Hypothesis of the Study (if any)** - The formulation of the research hypotheses is typically determined by the implications of the related literature and the deductive logic of the problem under investigation. We can use different types of hypotheses according to the need and nature of the study. Hypothesis can be numbered as H1, H2, H3.....

Example- There is no significance difference between.....

There is a significant difference between.....

8. **Research Methodology** - Methodology should spell out the specific steps and procedure followed in the proposed research work, Analysis tools to be used.
  - **Method of the Study** - The researcher should define the method of research such as descriptive survey, experimental, quasi experimental, qualitative and quantitative etc., which they would be using in their research.

- **Population and sampling frame** - The researcher should clearly define the population from which the researcher will draw the sampling frame.
- **Sample and Sampling Technique** - Researcher should define the size of the sample and the procedure of sampling. The researcher may use different sampling methods such as random, multistage, stratified, purposive, convenient etc. according to objectives of the study.
- **Variables** - The researcher should define the variable such as Dependent, Independent and Intervening and Control according to the method of research.
- **Tool** - The researcher should clearly define the tool. The researcher can use self-made or standardized tools in the research according to the requirement and the availability of the tool. If the researcher is using a standardized tool- Name of the tool along with developers of the tool, year should be mentioned. The latest version of the standardized tool should be used.
- **Statistical Techniques to be used**- In this section the researcher describes how they plan to organise, analyse and interpret data. The details of the qualitative and quantitative statistical techniques and the rationale for using such techniques should be described in the synopsis.

9. **Delimitations of the Study** - Delimitations describe what the researcher intentionally chose to exclude or include to focus the research. These are within the researcher's control. Boundaries of the study should be made clear with reference to the scope of the study by specifying the areas to which the conclusion will be confined. A brief mention about the limitations of the study could also be included, if desired by the researcher. Limitations are factors that may affect the findings but cannot be controlled by the researcher, like - resources, methodology, unexpected events etc.

10. **Tentative time- plan of the work**

Aspect	Date & Duration (Tentative)
Review of related literature	
Data Collection	
Data Analysis	

Writing the dissertation	
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### 11. Chapterisation of Thesis -

Chapter No.	Name
Chapter 1	Introduction
Chapter 2	Review of Related Literature
Chapter 3	Research Methodology
Chapter 4	Analysis and Interpretation of Data
Chapter 5	Finding, Educational Implication and Suggestion

**12. References /Bibliography-** The researcher should give a list of books, journals, research papers and other documents that he has used in selecting the problem and in review of related literature. Reference should be written in APA (latest version) Style.

#### Example-

**Research Paper-** Kambouri-Danos, M., Ravanis, K., Jameau, A., & Boilevin, J. (2019). Precursor models and early years science learning: A case study related to the water state changes. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 47(4), 475-488. <http://doi.org/10.1007/s10643-019-00937-5>

**Webpage-** Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (2020, September 28). Title of webpage. Title of website. <https://XXXXXXXXXX> Name of Organisation. (2020, September 28). Title of webpage. Title of website. Retrieved Date, from <https://XXXXXXXXXX>

**Website-** The National Autistic Society (2014). *Recognising autism spectrum disorder*. Retrieved from <http://www.autism.org.uk/working-with/health/information-for-general-practitioners/recognising-autism-spectrum-disorder.aspx>.

## POINTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR FORMATTING THE PROPOSAL

**Page Orientation:** Portrait

**Page Size:** A4 size

**Margins:** 1-5 inch from the printable side and 1 inch from all other sides.

**Title of the Research Proposal:** Times New Roman (for English), Unicode/Walkman Chanakya/Kruti Dev 10 Font (for Sanskrit/Hindi), Bold, Size-18 Points, Alignment: Centre.

**All Headings:** Times New Roman (for English), Unicode/Walkman Chanakya/Kruti Dev 10 Font (for Sanskrit/Hindi), Bold, Size-14 points, Title case, Alignment: Left

**Sub-Headings:** Times New Roman (for English), Unicode/Walkman Chanakya/Kruti Dev 10 Font (for Sanskrit/Hindi), 12 points, Bold, Alignment: Centre

**Body-text (paragraphs):** Times New Roman (for English), Unicode/ Walkman Chanakya/ Kruti Dev 10 Font (for Sanskrit/Hindi), 12 points, Alignment: Justified

Line Spacing 1.5. Paragraphs of the text should be justified

- Each page of the proposal has to be given page number at bottom & at center as in numerical (1,2,3 ....etc.).
- The proposal should only be long enough to present the necessary information. The length will depend on the nature of the problem, but approximately 10-12 pages(spacing: 1.5 lines) are usually sufficient.
- Proposal should be stapled and NOT TO BE BOUND (spiral or otherwise)
- Check your proposal as per guidelines (if proposal is not found with proper guidelines, cause to be rejected at very initial stage).
- Tables and figures should be only used only if relevant and absolutely necessary.

### Important points related to References:

To maintain consistency in reference formatting candidate should follow guideline as given below:

- A reference list should identify references cited (e.g. book, journal article, conference proceedings, dissertations, theses etc.) in sufficient detail so that others may locate and consult your references.

- List all the references which have been cited in the proposal (in alphabetical order or in the order of their appearance in the text with numbering following some standard referencing style).
- It is important to BE CONSISTENT when you are referencing.
- References should contain all the necessary parts. No part should be missing.
- Sequences of the part of reference citation should be uniform for all the references of the same type.
- Use APA 7th Edition (for all Social Sciences), Blue Book (for Law), MLA 8th Edition (for Humanities)

**Word limit: 6000 words maximum excluding references / bibliography. Normally 5000 words will suffice.**

Lingaya's Vidyapeeth, Faridabad

**Title of the Proposal**

**PhD Research Proposal**

**Submitted by**

**Name of the Candidate:**

**Roll. No.:**

**Under the Supervision of**

**Name of Guide:**



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**Month and Year**

