

## **A title which describes the topic of your PhD research and your research problem**

Name:

Date:

Degree pursued and field of study:

### **1. Introduction**

How is your research topic positioned among existing academic research within the fields of economic sciences, administrative sciences, or political science? The background of and justification for your research: What is the social and theoretical problem you intend to address and the relevance of your study? Present your preliminary research questions.

Max. 1 page

### **2. The topic of your PhD study**

A brief literature review on your topic: What is already known about your topic and what is not and what makes the topic relevant?

Employ previous research and existing literature to support your arguments and to indicate the significance of your study. Divide your writing in logical subchapters using second level headings.

Max. 3 pages

### **3. Research setting and methodology**

Give a tentative description of your research strategy, research data and methodology. Contemplate on how your research strategy and data align with the subject of your research and your research questions. You should also indicate whether you are planning to write an article-based dissertation or a monograph.

Max. 1 page

### **4. Research surroundings**

Why do you think that the Faculty of Management at the University of Tampere is the best place for you to pursue your post-graduate studies and conduct your PhD research?

How is your proposed study linked with other research taking place at the Faculty of Management and/or the research programme? And how is your study related to your possible supervisors' previous and current research?

Approx. ½ page

### **5. Schedule**

This section should outline a rough schedule for your research. The process can be divided into 6-month periods, for example. Take into consideration your status as a student, that is, whether you will be

conducting research full time or part time. Also coordinate your research plan with your personal study plan.

Full-time students: aim at completing your PhD in 4 years.

Part-time students: aim at completing your PhD in 4 to 8 years.

Include in your schedule at least the following tasks: preparations, searching for literature and analysing it, collecting data, analysing data, preparing the manuscript, in the case of an article-based dissertation, schedule for writing and publishing the articles, check-ups and corrections to the dissertation, finalising the dissertation and the public defence process (6 to 12 months). Consider the true requirements of each individual task. Visualise your schedule with the help of a table or a bar chart, for example.

In case you are a part-time PhD student, you should also make plans for your study leave from your primary job. You will need this particularly for data analysis and preparing and finalising the manuscript. Be realistic and consider your true resources for conducting research.

Approx. ½ page

## 6. Funding

A rough estimate on how you plan to support yourself financially while completing your PhD studies. How are you going to fund your post-graduate studies? Go to <http://www.uta.fi/english/doctoralschool/funding/index.html> for more information. Are you familiar with the funding offered by different foundations and the conditions they entail? What other funding options have you considered? Have you discussed your funding options with your possible supervisor?

Part-time students should allocate a sufficient amount of time each week and continually for their studies and research. In addition to this, it is recommended that part-time students take a longer leave of absence at least on two occasions, with the help of a scholarship, in order to analyse the research data or finalise the manuscript.

Approx. ½ page

## Bibliography

The essential literature to be included in your literature review describing the field of research.