

Research Project Proposal – 1500 words

Please give a clear outline of your PhD project and its context, including:

- an account of its aims, significance, originality, and timeliness
- the principal research questions you will be posing
- the methodologies for your work and any relevant theoretical approaches to be deployed
- the primary materials you will be working with/on
- any outcomes you envisage beyond the PhD thesis itself (e.g. creative outputs, outreach, public engagement, impact)

You should already have a sense of how the PhD is likely to be structured, so please include a brief indication of what this structure currently looks like (this may be in the form of a chapter-by-chapter breakdown, or you may prefer to suggest instead the broad areas into which you expect your work will take you). For some projects (e.g. those involving field work or archival research) it may be useful to provide a rough timeline for such work indicating where it fits within the funding provided by UWE.

Guidance

Your research proposal should include the following:

A working project title

The research problem(s)/question(s)/hypothesis(-es) that you plan to address

- *Explain why it is/they are important and timely, and how this will be of broader benefit to society*

The context to your proposed study

- *Explain what has been said/done about this before*
- *Your context may include a selective and critical review of the relevant scholarly literature, assessing its strengths and weaknesses, to show your understanding of the main debates and issues in your research area*
- *Indicate how your proposed research will add to, or reconceptualise, what has been said/done to date*

The research methods you will use

- *Explain why are these the most appropriate*
- *Confirm you have provisional permission to undertake the research on the material, if permission to do so is required*

Outcomes arising from the research beyond the PhD itself

- *These may be creative outputs, outreach materials, public engagement activities, policy impact guidelines, etc.*

A provisional timeline for the completion of your PhD research project

- *Justify that what you propose to undertake can be completed within the duration of your registration period*

A Bibliography to your proposal should be included - this sits outside the word count.

The Bibliography should simply contain bibliographical details of any works that you cite during the course of your research project proposal. It is not meant as an opportunity for you to list all the works in your field with which you are familiar.

Choice of supervisors – 300 words

Please explain why you feel the supervisory team is best suited to your research project and your studentship.

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Alignment with DCRC – 200 words

How will you benefit from your PhD being located within the research centre?