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**RESEARCH PROJECT APPLICATION (Empirical Study \*e.g., qualitative or quantitative)**

**SECTION A: GENERAL INFORMATION**

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| --- | --- |
| **Type of research application** (e.g., larger project, student research, independent project)  If applicable: Provide the title of the larger project, the Name of the principal investigator and the original ethics number |  |

**Student Research Project (To be completed by student-researcher)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Student name and surname:** |  |
| **Student number:** |  |
| **Degree:** |  |
| **Chosen methodology:** (e.g., qualitative, quantitative, mixed-method, multi-method, etc.) |  |
| **Year of first registration for degree:** |  |
| **Current registration date for degree:** |  |
| **Student ORCiD ID:** |  |
| **Study leader/supervisor/promotor:**   * Supervisor/promotor research methodology and subject expertise: * Expiry date of HREC training: * ORCiD ID: |  |
| **Co-leader/co-supervisor/co-promotor:**   * Co-supervisor/co-promotor research methodology and subject expertise: * Expiry date of HREC training: * ORCiD ID: |  |
| **Assistant-leader:**   * Assistant-leader research methodology and subject expertise: * Expiry date of HREC training: * ORCiD ID: |  |
| **Date of small group/critical review group approval:** |  |
| **Small group/critical review group panel members (attach letter from CRG if applicable):** |  |
| **Expected date for student to complete NWU HREC Training/TRREE Training:** |  |
| **Did student and supervisor sign the student agreement document** (please indicate **yes** or **no):** |  |

**Independent Research Project (if not applicable, please remove)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project leader name and surname:** |  |
| **Staff number:** |  |
| **Date of ethics training and when does it expire?** |  |
| **Information on research team:**  (Please provide Institution and if applicable staff number). |  |
| **Date of ethics training and when does it expire for other researchers?** |  |
| **Date of small group/critical review group approval (if applicable):** |  |
| **Small group/critical review group panel members (if applicable):** |  |

**SECTION B: PROPOSAL**

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| --- |
| **The following section includes headings to guide the student in writing their proposal with brief descriptions. These descriptions can be removed. Please ensure to use the headings when compiling the research proposal. Also please ensure that the proposal is formatted according to the chosen referencing style (e.g., APA or Harvard).** |

1. **Title of Study**
2. **Keywords**
3. **Definitions**
4. **Executive Summary**

* ***+/-*** *150 to 200 words****.***
* *Provide a short outline of what you intend to do in the study,* *why you want to do it, and how you will do it. This can also be used for HREC later in the application process. Refer to problem statement, population, objectives, design, and methods. Include sampling and analysis.*

1. **Conceptualisation and Problem Statement**

* *Provide a short contextual description against which the project will be conducted. Identify gaps in the study field from literature and logically and scientifically argue the theoretical and conceptual framework of your approach to this gap. It must be clearly motivated and supported with literature on why the study is necessary.*

1. **Research Question(s) or Hypothesis Statement**

* ***Qualitative studies:*** *Culmination of the above discussion into a research question/s and/or sub-questions.*
* ***Quantitative studies:*** *Culmination of the above into a hypothesis/es or research question/s.*

1. **Aim(s) and/or Objective(s)**

* *Follow subject-specific definitions. Need to see that objectives reflect steps towards the goal/aim (NB: Large and PhD project applications will typically include a larger number of related aims/objectives – it should be possible to execute each within independent sub-studies. Affiliated studies do not link to the specific objectives of the larger study).*
* *Are the aims/objectives obtainable and realistically in terms of expected timeline of the project?*

1. **Study Contribution and Relevance (community, university, scientific committee, globally)**

* *What is the contribution that this study aims to make to knowledge generation in the subject field? The relevance and value of the study must be clear.*

1. **Methodology -** *(If study is multiphase and/or mixed method please repeat sections where applicable).*
   1. **Research Approach**

* *Quantitative / Qualitative / Mixed method / Multi method.*
* *Provide motivation for approach and support with literature.* 
  1. **Research Design**
* *E.g., Survey / cross-sectional; experimental; randomised control study; action research; case study; phenomenology; qualitative description; action research; narrative inquiry; etc.*
* *Provide motivation for design and support with literature.* 
  1. **Population, Sampling, and Sample Size**
* *The group of people you would like to generalise (quantitative) the results to or from which sample is selected (qualitative).*
* *Provide motivation for population and support with literature.*
* *Chosen sampling method (e.g., non-random purposive sampling method). Provide motivation for sampling method and support with literature.*
* *Sample* ***inclusion*** *and* ***exclusion*** *criteria to be used in the selection of participants relevant to your sample should be provided and supported with literature. Exclusion criteria* ***are not mere opposites*** *of inclusion criteria.*
* *Sample size should be discussed with motivation supported by literature.*
  1. **Data Collection and Procedures**
* *Permission for the study (legal and goodwill).*
* *How will you recruit your participants (e.g. social media platforms, communities, etc.)*
* *Entering/gaining access to the participants (indicate if they are vulnerable), role player engagement (gatekeepers/mediators), recruitment.*
* *Obtaining informed consent (again refer to gatekeepers, mediators and person who will obtain consent).*
* *Methods of data collection and practical implementation (include instruments to be used – qualitative and quantitative).*
* *Incentives/reimbursement.*
  1. **Data Analysis**
* *Indicate the specific method(s), for example: Statistical (descriptive); Statistical (inferential AND indicate technique); Thematic analysis; other (explain). Specifically indicate software utilisation (if used).*
* *(Indicate whom you have consulted with (e.g. NWU Statistical Consultation Services) or motivate why no consultation needs to take place (e.g. qualifications and experience of researcher or study leader).*

1. **Trustworthiness (Qualitative) or Validity and Reliability (Quantitative)**

* *Validity and reliability values for all questionnaires should be reported.*

1. **Ethical Considerations**

* *Risks of harm*
* *Benefits (direct and/or indirect)*
* *Voluntary participation.*
* *Confidentiality.*
* *Privacy.*
* *No harm.*
* *Informed consent.*
* *Storage and archiving of data (during data collection and after study has been completed).*
* *Dissemination of results/findings.*
* *Conflict of interest.*
* *Data management and storage.*
* *Dissemination of results/findings.*

1. **Research Monitoring**

* *Indicate how compliance with the approved research proposal will be maintained.*
* *How will ethics be monitored?*
* *How will any amendments be addressed and managed?*
* *In the instance of adverse event (how will it be reported and managed?)*

1. **Choice and Structure of Report**

* *Indicate if the article format or conventional thesis format will be used (also indicate structure). Keep in mind that research articles have to STRICTLY adhere to publication criteria; this should be built into the proposal - which Journals will be considered for publication.*
* *Indicate Journal, editorial requirements and referencing style followed, accreditation.*
* ***Please note that for a full dissertation two articles are expected.***

1. **Research Budget**

* *Provide a structured budget for the complete project. Include a breakdown of costs for the project, including use of printing, technical assistance and data analysis consultation, transport, editorial assistance, etc.*
* *Is this research project part of larger project and/or project plan of the supervisor?*
* *Indicate funding that will cover the budget.*

**Table**

*Table Name*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Description** | **Estimated Cost(s)** |
| Language Editing |  | R |
| Co-coder |  | R |
|  |  | R |
| **Total Costs:** |  | **R** |

1. **Timeframe**

* *Provide a projected time frame indicating the course of the project.*
* *Sequence to coincide with HREC application.*

**Table**

*Table Name*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Time Frame** |
| Proposal writing | March - April 2024 |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

1. **References**