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## CCCU logo - main

**MPhil/PhD by Thesis Proposal**

This proposal form should accompany the online application.

Applicants are advised to consult with the relevant academic School or Faculty to discuss their proposal before submission. If you are unsure who to contact please contact the CCCU central admissions team (**Email:**[admissions@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@canterbury.ac.uk); **Tel:**01227 925555) or the Graduate College (Email: [graduatecollege@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:graduatecollege@canterbury.ac.uk); Tel: 01227 782701).

## Guidelines

When writing your proposal you should:

* Enter text under the numbered headings and within the boxes
* Answer the questions precisely
* Not exceed the word limit for each section
* Demonstrate evidence of precision and scholarship and a feasible project
* In the literature section, do not write a literature review, but provide the information required, which will be based on your knowledge of areas and references which you will consider in your research.

The Proposal should be a coherent and realistic statement of intent which shows clearly how the different elements of your proposed research will fit together. There should be a definite coherence governing the relationships between your research question(s) and the rest of your strategy. It is fully appreciated that the research project may develop in ways you may not be able to precisely define at this stage. It is therefore hoped that you can express your planning as negotiable intentions and contingencies where this is the case. You should avoid general statements which could apply to any research proposal in your area.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name:** [insert your name here] |  | |
| Applying for a Scholarship only: YES ☐/ NO ☐  Applying for self-funded study only: YES ☐/ NO ☐  Applying for a Scholarship place and self-funded study: YES ☐/ NO ☐ | | |
| PLEASE ENSURE YOU COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS AND ADHERE TO WORD LIMITS | Number of words | |
| [1] Title  State the title of your research | 30 | |
| [2] Location  Describe where the research will be carried out | 40 | |
| [3] Research questions  List no more than four research questions | 40 | |
| [4] Importance  Explain (a) why the research is important, (b) how it relates to existing discussions, and (c) what makes it sufficiently broad, deep and original for MPhil/PhD work | 200 | |
| [5] Literature  Identify at least three broad areas of literature which you intend to consult.  For each area (a) explain how it relates to your research questions, and (b) provide no more than three key references.  Here you must show that you are looking further afield than the core literature connected with your topic. | | 300 |
| [6] Methodology  Describe (a) the research approach which you intend to employ, (b) how this will be translated into data collection or source consultation, and (c) how it is an appropriate means for addressing the research questions. | | 300 |
| [7] Arrangements and access  Describe what arrangements will be made for data collection or source consultation, with special reference to access, and relations with participants or other bodies | | 120 |
| [8] Special supervisory requirements  If you intend to be away from the University for more than one month for the purpose of data collection, source consultation or other activities related to your research, state (a) the duration and occasions of this absence, (b) how contact will be maintained with your supervisors and (c) how you will be able to access the necessary library resources. | | 230 |
| [9] Research objectives  State what you hope to have achieved by the end of each year of your proposed study.  Year 1  Year 2  Year 3  Year 4 (for part-time students)  Year 5 (for part-time students) | | 180 |
| [10] Funding  State how you intend to fund this research. | | 20 |
| [11] Ethics, Police and Occupational Health Clearance  Will your research involve human participants as your research subjects? Yes 🞏 No 🞏  If yes, please respond to the following questions   * Will the study involve participants who are particularly vulnerable or unable to give informed consent (e.g. children, people with learning disabilities)? Yes 🞏 No 🞏 * Will it be necessary for participants to take part in the study without their knowledge and consent at the time (e.g. covert observation of people in non-public places)? Yes 🞏 No 🞏 * Will the study involve discussion of sensitive topics (e.g. sexual activity, drug use)? Yes 🞏 No 🞏 * Will the study involve invasive or intrusive procedures such as blood taking from participants or the administration of drugs, placebos or other substances (e.g. food substances, vitamins)? Yes 🞏 No 🞏 * Is physiological stress, pain, or more than mild discomfort likely to result from the study? Yes 🞏 No 🞏 * Could the study induce psychological stress or anxiety or cause harm or negative consequences beyond the risks encountered in normal life? Yes 🞏 No 🞏 * Will the study involve recruitment of participants (including staff) through a Local Authority Department of Social Services or through the NHS? Yes 🞏 No 🞏 * Have you received Criminal Records Bureau and Vetting & Barring Scheme clearance? Yes 🞏 No 🞏 * Have you had a recent occupational health screening [students proposing to carry out research in NHS or Social Care environments only] Yes 🞏 No 🞏 Not applicable 🞏   If ‘yes’ to question 1-7, or ‘no’ to questions 8 or 9, what steps are being taken to address these issues? | | 40 |
|  | | 1500 |