

**PROPOSAL FORM FOR DELM MASTERS MINOR-DISSERTATIONS**

**SCITECHED, Faculty of Education**

**ONLINE PROGRAMME**

**Notes**:

1. This is a form which cannot be edited, and information can only be added in the grey entry fields.
2. Use TAB to move forward between entry fields. Use SHIFT-TAB to move backwards. Alternatively, click in an entry field.
3. Instructions may appear in the status bar at the bottom of the screen.

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| Section A: Student and supervisor details | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Full names of student** |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Student number** |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Student email** |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Title** | Prof |  | Dr |  | Ms | |  | Mrs | |  | Mr |  |
| **Degree specialisation** |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Department** |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Date of first registration** |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Registration Status** | Supervisor confirms the registration by ticking the check box. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Supervisor Name** |  | | | | | **Co-supervisor** | | |  | | | |
| **Supervisor emails** |  | | | | | **Co-supervisor email** | | |  | | | |

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| **Supervisor Signature** |  |
| **Co-Supervisor Signature** |  |
| **Student signature** |  |

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| Section B: Describing and contextualising the proposed research |

(**Note**: To learn more about each section, simply follow the Learn about link. To follow a hyperlink in MS-Word documents, you need to hold the Ctrl key and then click on the link)

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| **Proposed title**  [Learn about](http://dissertation.laerd.com/dissertation-titles.php) |  |
| **Research question(s)**  [Learn about](https://sites.duke.edu/urgws/files/2014/02/Research-Questions_WS-handout.pdf) |  |
| **State the research problem**  Maximum 300 words  [Learn about](https://www.nyu.edu/classes/bkg/methods/010072.pdf) |  |
| **Research aim**  [Learn about](https://research-methodology.net/research-methodology/research-aims-and-objectives/) |  |
| **Research objectives**  [Learn about](https://research-methodology.net/research-methodology/research-aims-and-objectives/)  No more than three objectives |  |
| **Describe the background to the research problem**  Maximum 300 words  [Learn about](https://www.winjeel.com/ELT/Writing/How_to_write_the_Background_Section.pdf) |  |

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| **Summary of supporting and dissenting literature**  In this section, identify literature sources that illuminate the research problem.  In the ‘Source’ entry fields, enter similar to: Moloi (2106).  In the ‘Excerpt” entry fields, enter full sentences, paraphrasing from the source.  Write in such a way that when put together, the statements section forms a coherent ‘whole’.  **Do not refer to your research context** | **Source** | **Excerpt** |
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| Section C: Describing the research processes |

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| **Paradigm** | Positivist | | |  | | Constructivist/Interpretivist | | |  | Pragmatism | |  | |
| **Nature of study** | Quantitative | | |  | | Qualitative | | |  | Mixed methods | |  | |
| **If mixed methods** | Explanatory | | |  | | Exploratory | | |  | Other | |  | |
| **If mixed methods, explain the “mix”**  [Learn about](http://sites.bu.edu/miccr/files/2017/03/02.10.2017-SRF-Forum-Mixed-Method-Slides.pdf) | | | |  | | | | | | | | | |
| **Design**  [Learn about](https://islmblogblog.files.wordpress.com/2016/05/rme-edu-helpline-blogspot-com.pdf) | Action research | | |  | | Case Study |  | Design research | | | |  | |
| Ethnography | | |  | | Experiment |  | Generic Qualitative | | | |  | |
| Grounded Theory | | |  | | Phenomenology |  | Quasi-experiment | | | |  | |
| Quantitative Survey | | |  | | Qualitative Survey |  | If other, please state | | | |  | |
| **Briefly describe the design**  150 words max. Reference sources. |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **How will data be collected?**  [Learn about](https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2002/nsf02057/nsf02057_4.pdf) | **Existing questionnaire**  Identify and briefly describe the questionnaire | | | | **Own questionnaire/survey**  Identify theoretical structure    Identify response types | | | | | | **Observations**  Number of observations:  **List what is to be observed:**  1.  2.  3. | | |
| **Structured interviews**  Number of interviews:  **List main questions:**  1.  2.  3. | | | | **Semi-structured interviews**  **Number of interviews: ­­­­\_\_\_\_** | | | | | | **Unstructured interviews**  Number of interviews:  **List main question:** | | |
| **Focus groups**  Number of focus groups  Size of focus groups  Any additional information | | | | **Group interviews**  Number of group interviews  Size of the groups  Any additional information | | | | | | **Document analysis**  Identify what documents | | |
| Other | |  | | If other, please elaborate | | | | | |  | | |
| **Sampling** [Learn About](https://www.kent.ac.uk/religionmethods/documents/Sampling.pdf) | Probability sampling | Random |  | | Systematic | |  | | | | Stratified | |  |
| Cluster sampling |  | | Other | | | | | | Please elaborate | | |
| None-Probability | Purposive/ Targeted |  | | Snowball | |  | | | | Convenience | |  |
| Quota |  | | Other | | | | | | Please elaborate | | |
| **Sample size** |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Briefly identify selection criteria** |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Briefly explain how you will approach your participants** |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| **How will data be analysed**?  [Learn About](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/292432218_A_Step-By-Step_Guide_To_Qualitative_Data_Analysis) (Qualitative)  [Learn About](https://humansofdata.atlan.com/2018/09/qualitative-quantitative-data-analysis-methods/) (Quantitative) | **Descriptive statistics** | **Inferential statistics** | **Qualitative coding** | |
| Identify measures | Identify measures | Describe how you will code the data. | |
| If other, please state | | |  |
| **Please elaborate**  **software used (if applicable)** |  | | | |
| **Reliability/validity/ trustworthiness**  [Learn About](https://home.kku.ac.th/wichuda/S_SC703/ReliabilityandValidity.pdf)  Please describe the measures to be taken. For quantitative studies, identify reliability measures e.g. Cronbach alpha, Validity measures e.g. construct validity. For qualitative studies, trustworthiness (e.g. triangulation, credibility, etc. |  | | | |

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| Section D: Ethical screening |

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| **Ethical Measures**  Indicate that you will ensure the ethical measures | Informed consent  You will inform participants what the purpose of the research is, and they must indicate that they participate willingly. |  | Anonymity / confidentiality  You will inform participants that they will remain anonymous | | | |  | | Participation & withdrawal  You will explain to participants that they may withdraw at any time without any penalty and their data will be removed. | | |  |
| Future interest & feedback |  | *Respondents / participants are informed that they could request access to the report before it is published* | | | | | | | | | |
| Institutional permission required |  | *The research takes place in a context where institutional permission is required* | | | | | | | | | |
| Age range of participants | <14 | | | *parental* ***consent*** *is required, minors need to* ***assent*** | | | | | | | |
| 14 – 17 | | | *parental* ***consent*** *is required, minors need to* ***assent*** | | | | | | | |
| Above 18 | | |  | | | | | | | |
| What is the level of risk involved in this study? | | | Low | |  | | Medium | |  | High |  |
| Elaborate on risks | |  | | | | | | | | | |
| Elaborate on ethical measures | |  | | | | | | | | | |
| Elaborate on potential benefits | |  | | | | | | | | | |

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| Section E: Selected resources |

Select and list ten resources below. Please ensure that you list these and remain fully compliant with requirements of the referencing style that you use, e.g. APA or Harvard.

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| Section F: Control SHEET  (For use by staff only) |

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| **Proposal reviewer** | Reviewer 1: | Reviewer 2 (if applicable): |
| **Proposal reviewer Decision** | Reviewer 1: | Reviewer 2(if applicable): : |

**Form developed by:** Prof D van der Westhuizen. October 2019. Adapted by Prof K Yu. Sep 2020.