



Melbourne College of Divinity

Doctor of Ministry Studies – Proposal of Research Project

First Draft **Revised Draft**
 (please date) ___/___/___ (please date) ___/___/___

Name of Student	
Address	
Street	
Suburb	
State/Postcode	
Country	
Contact Details	
Area Code/Phone	
Area Code/Fax	
Email	
Proposed Supervisor	The candidate should be readily available to answer queries (if not MCD faculty please attach curriculum vitae)
Address	
Street	
Suburb	
State/Postcode	
Country	
Contact Details	
Area Code/Phone	
Area Code/Fax	
Email	

BACKGROUND AND AIMS OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT

Every research proposal must demonstrate that the research is justifiable in terms of its potential contribution to knowledge and is based on a thorough study of current literature as well as prior observation and approved previous studies. All research proposals must be designed so as to ensure that no harm is caused to participants and that any risks are balanced by the likely benefit to be gained.

The following categories have been adapted from the Human Research Ethics Committee Application Form to facilitate preparation of the latter.

1. Working Title

2. Give a succinct description in plain language of the background and potential significance of the research project.

(250 words. Attach a separate reference list if relevant. Begin in box below with "This Research Project will".)

On A4 paper with 1.5 spacing, font size 12, please use the following headings to elaborate on your Proposal.

3 a **Introduction** – 1-2 pages.

Explain your interest in the subject and its context within the practice of your ministry.

3 b **Clearly state the overall aim of the Project** - up to 2 pages.

Include a general overview responding to questions such as:

What is the history of the subject?

What are the issues involved?

What are the problems that need to be addressed?

3 c **Focus of the Project** – up to 4 pages

Clearly list the questions / hypotheses / objectives of the project, responding to such questions as:

What is the exact purpose of the Project?

What are the boundaries within which you propose to investigate the topic?

What 'givens' does the project assume which you do not want to have to demonstrate?

How is the present study both necessary and innovative and how it will contribute to the issues raised in the general overview and to the practice of ministry in particular?

What theological/ministerial resources will be brought to bear on the issue?

4 Methodology - up to 4 pages

4 a Clearly outline the procedural steps to be followed. Please be specific about your research methodology and include a detailed timeline for recruitment, data collection, analysis procedures, and preparation and submission of the report.

4 b Collection of data – materials and procedures.

How, where and by whom is the data to be collected? Candidates should briefly outline all research/control procedures to be used with each category of participants (e.g. questionnaires, interviews, video and taped interviews, phone interviews, observation). *Copies of questionnaires, interview questions etc. are to be attached.*

(NB: Data includes all information gathered from interviews, questionnaires, personal correspondence etc that is not on the public record.)

5 Timetable and draft Chapter Outline - 1-2 pages.

(It is recognised that these may change.)

6 Representative Bibliography and other resources.

List your resources. Limit your written resources to the 15 most important ones. Put an asterisk (*) beside those you have already examined in depth and indicate in parentheses after each resource where it is accessible to you.

7 Supervisor's comment – No more than 1 page.

Include, on a separate page, your supervisor's comment on the viability and benefits of the Research Project.

Signature of Candidate

Name

(Please print SURNAME in capitals)

Signature:

Date:

Signature of Supervisor

Name

(Please print SURNAME in capitals)

Signature:

Date:
