

THE COMPOSING OF YOUR RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Your research proposal is useful and efficient because it is (1) a way to inform your supervisor of your approach (2) a handy tool to clearly define your set-up from the start and (3) also the substantive basis of your later important (general) introduction.

General remark

With every choice you make in your research proposal, you mention your reasons for this so that the reader has as few questions as possible. The same also applies to your final text. In line with this, the content of your research proposal is always provisional, things can still be adjusted during the writing process.



Content research proposal (who, what, when, why, which one, the w-questions)

Choice and motivation subject: which subject and why (scientific relevance for the program and academic relevance within the domain)?



- **Demarcation subject:** geographical (where? Europe, Belgium, Flanders...?), temporal (when? the last 20, 10, 5 years...?), goal research (mapping out something, evaluating, advising...), which target groups?
- (Preliminary) **research questions:** central and (sub)research questions.
- **Which research method:** qualitative/quantitative?
- **Which relevant authors/researchers** are there within your domain?
- **List of theories/theoretical concepts** that you'll use and discuss.
- (Preliminary) **table of contents and planning.**

Content determination (how do you produce the content of your research proposal?)

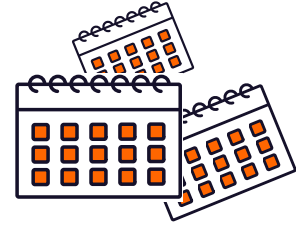
- Literature study: explore **globally** the relevant literature. (table of contents, introductions, decisions...), keep the **w-questions** in mind.
- De w-questions: formulate **the answers** to these questions, put them on paper, pour them in a **structure** and you have your research proposal.



SOS The composing of your research proposal:
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ADDITIONAL TIPS

- Discuss the logistical and technical feasibility of your research.
- Describe the research design, method of datacollection, analysis and processing.
- Discuss a division of tasks in a joint project.
- When there is a collaboration with a research lab or commercial company, you can state this in your research proposal.
- List the **techniques** used to solve the problem.



FINALLY, THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING YOUR SUBJECT

- The choice of subject is either from a (1) list or (2) your own proposal or (3) following a visit from a master's thesis fair.
- Recording the subject via the online MaThis system or another system that your program works with.