

## Research Proposal Guidelines

At the application stage we expect the Research Outline to be approximately 3-4 pages and should, to the extent feasible, cover the following points -

- the main question or problems to be tackled;
- why is this being investigated; why is it interesting and important; what is its analytical significance and/or policy relevance?
- how will the question be approached; to what extent is this approach distinctive or new?
- based on a survey of relevant literature and past research, what hypotheses or hunches will be explored, what questions asked?
- the broad overall structure of the dissertation (specific chapter headings are not necessary).
- what programme of research will be followed, including field work, and how will this relate to the hypothesis?
- what contribution might this work make to our knowledge and understanding of the field?