

PhD proposal: a short guideline

Required qualifications: A master's degree, or an equivalent exam degree, of minimum 120 ECTS.

While it is possible to apply for a PhD position before having received the final grade for one's master's thesis, the competition for PhD positions is often so high that applicants without a completed master's degree may be disregarded.

Project description

The project description should be 5 pages (each of 2400 signs, incl. spaces), incl. everything (title, study plan, figures, tables, references, etc.) but excl. bibliography.

Please note that the time schedule should be included in the project description (despite the application system guiding you to upload a time schedule separately).

Applications extending 12,000 signs / 5 pages will be dismissed.

What should a PhD project description include?

Introduction: Title of project; introduction of project, motivation, relevance.

State of the art: situating the project within existing scholarship, nationally and internationally; how does the project contribute to the field of study – and if the PhD-project is part of a collective research project it must be clearly stated how the PhD-project contributes to it.

Theoretical framework: Describe the theoretical framework for the research; incl. the motivation for a given theory and/or analytic approach.

Methodology: Describe your choice of methods (qualitative and/or quantitative methods, ethnography, desktop studies, archival research, online ethnography, etc.); describe how you will get access to data (for instance, how to recruit interviewees, how to access companies, institutions, archives, and libraries etc.).

Ethics: Reflect upon the ethical aspects of your research, especially your methods, and describe your ethical considerations.

Research design and a more specific a detailed description of the project under investigation. This should include considerations concerning the format of the PhD (monograph or collection of articles) and possible publications incl. popular dissemination.

Dept. of Arts and Communication (DCA): Motivation for doing a PhD at DCA; research groups to be involved in; potential supervisors; why is DCA a good place to host your project.

Time schedule: Provide a time schedule for the 3 years (divided by 6 semesters) outlining your anticipated progress: This should include a plan for the study (when to collect empirical data, reading, writing, etc.); when to take PhD courses (course work of 30 ECTS should be completed during the three years); and teaching (for most PhDs the teaching load amounts to one semester's fulltime work). Include preliminary ideas for a planned research stay abroad (when and where?).