



SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

MKU/PG/F002: PROPOSED RESEARCH PROPOSAL FORMAT

A research proposal, besides the title, should as much as possible contain the sections outlined below. This format provides a framework to serve as a guide. Schools/ departments are at liberty to make adjustments to meet specific requirements.

1.0 Preamble

Preamble is an exordium that introduces the proposed research project

1.1 Statement of the Problem

2.0 Rationale

Rationale provides reasons and principles that justify the need to conduct the proposed research.

3.0 Objectives

Objectives may be referred to as the desired aims of the proposed research project. Objectives should be specific and achievable within stipulated duration of a project.

4.0 Hypothesis

Hypothesis may be referred to as a postulation that speculates expected outcome. Usually the alternative hypothesis which assumes significant differences in the expected outcome is used.

5.0 Research Questions

Research questions must be closely related to the objectives of the proposed project.

6.0 Literature Review

Literature review should contain literature relevant to the objectives of the proposed project. It should identify gaps in current literature which findings of the proposed research will fill.

7.0 Methodology

Methodology should as much as possible contain methods, procedures, techniques, processes, strategies and plans that will be used in the implementation of the proposed research project.

8.0 References

References contain titles of literature and corresponding authors that are cited in the text of a scholarly write-up.

9.0 Appendices

Proposed project budget, implementation plan, e.t.c. should be appended to a research proposal.

Size of Research Proposals

- A project research proposal should not exceed ten (10) double spaced pages excluding appendices
- A Master's thesis research proposal should not exceed 15 double spaced pages excluding appendices.
- A Ph.D research proposal should not exceed 21 double spaced pages excluding appendices.