

# Research Proposal

For PhD-applications. A+BE Graduate School.

**The research proposal should include the following:**

**I. Provisional Title:** It serves a general introduction to the project, framing it conceptually, thematically, and in time and space.

**II. Abstract:** Short summary (300-500 words), including keywords.

**III. Question(s)/Hypothesis, Aims and Goals:** Clearly and succinctly spell out the question(s) or hypothesis that drive your research and carefully articulate the aims and ambitions of your proposed study.

**IV. Preliminary outline:** describe the overall structure of the PhD research and explain how it will address your question(s)/hypothesis.

**V. Disciplinary Approach:** Introduce your research methodology and position it in its larger disciplinary (or cross/ or inter/ or trans-disciplinary) framework.

**VI. Research significance:** Explain why this research is relevant and original. (You may include a comment as to who you believe is your 'audience'.) Position the proposed research within the framework of research (sub-)programmes as spelled out on our [website](#)

**VII. Preliminary Annotated Bibliography:** Distinguish primary and secondary literature and provide short summaries of each source in regard to its topic, disciplinary/methodological/theoretical framework used and the relevance to your research.

**VIII. Addendum** This can include anything you find relevant to advancing a clear picture of yourself as a potential PhD candidate – an example might be a published text, letter of recommendation, relevant portfolio items, etc.

**Document Length:** This first draft research proposal to be submitted upon application, should be limited to +/- 2500 words (exclusive bibliography & addendum).