**Template for Research Proposal: PhD Register**

The following is the minimum content required in the Research Proposal to be submitted to the MTU - Cork School of Graduate Studies when requesting admission to the PhD by Research Register. In the case where the student’s research is being carried out in the context of a larger research programme, the research proposal should primarily focus on the student’s individual project and, except to put the student’s project in context, not on the larger research programme.

1. **Abstract (250 words)**

Summarise the objectives, the expected originality and the research methodology to be used.

1. **Research Context and Contribution to the Research Field**

Describe the broad context of the research and the overall contribution which will be made to the general field of research.

1. **Objectives**

Summarise the key objectives of the research.

1. **Review of the state of the art/current literature/current practice in the field of research** (1000 words minimum)

Review the state of the art/current literature/current practice in the topic of the proposed research with references to the scholarly literature as appropriate.

1. **Expected progress with respect to the state of the art/ current literature/current practice in the field of research**

Describe how the proposed research has the potential to meet the criteria set out in Sections 12.4.(f) and 12.4.(g) of the CIT Postgraduate Regulations:

(f) the thesis must make a substantial and original contribution to scholarship and provide evidence of originality by the exercise of independent critical powers;

(g) the thesis must contain an acceptable amount of original work by the candidate, which is considered by the examiners to be of publishable standard in the form inter alia of:

* articles in appropriate refereed journals
* a book or other scholarly publication
* a research/creative or self-expressive work monograph which meets the standard of refereed academic publications;
* or have a comparable peer-recognised impact on their profession.

1. **Research methodology**

Describe the methodology to be used in the proposed research and why it is appropriate to the research objectives.

1. **Work Plan**

Present the research work plan, outlining the main research tasks and timing. Include a Gantt chart.

1. **Ethical issues**

If the proposed research directly involves human or live animal subjects, discuss the ethical issues involved and the actions that will be taken to ensure compliance with CIT ethics guidelines and with the CIT Child Protection Policy (if children are involved).