**UNIVERSITY OF THE PELOPONNESE**

**FACULTY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES**

**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

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**Research Design for conducting a Doctoral Thesis**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Surname |  |
| Suggested Supervisor |  |
| Indicative/Temporary Title of Thesis: | «…» |
| Date |  |

**Useful information/Guidelines:**

* *The word limits are indicative so that the required effort is made and should be met as much as possible. Under no circumstances should it exceed the double of every limit or the total of 5000 words for the sections 1 to 6.*
* *Any illustrations (e. g. tables, graphs, diagrams, etc) must be original or the source must be mentioned clearly, must be sequentially numbered and must be accompanied by a descriptive caption. The number of words in tables, graphs, etc is not taken into account.*
* *Every illustration must be relevant to the theses or the arguments or the analysis presented in the text on both sides. The use of purely decorative elements must be avoided.*
* *If necessary, use section headings to structure the text in sections and subsections (that is, two level structure) but in the fields that have been set. The structure in “chapters”, “part A, B, …”, “Section 1, 2, …” is not allowed.*
* *The citation of sources must comply with the APA system. Notes can be used for comments but not for citation of sources.*
* *The text must be original. The use of extracts must be done sparingly unless the suggested research or part of it concerns only the study of the specific extracts.*
* *In cases of plagiarism the application for conducting a doctoral thesis will be rejected without the opportunity to submit a new application in the same or the immediately following application period.*
* *Focus on the design you wish to make- the cohesion of the design is important. Avoid to show a wealth of knowledge or experiences or other accomplishments or excessive ambition regarding the scientific contribution and the expected results.*

# Introduction

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| *A short presentation of the aims and the topic which the specific thesis deals with and the main arguments which lead to the conduction of the specific thesis.*  *Indicative length up to 500 words.* |

# Review of main bibliographical sources

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| *Short review of the literature which defines the scientific background of the suggested thesis. The review must be comprehensive emphasising on the most characteristic bibliographical sources – the extensive and thorough review of the literature is part of the thesis itself. It is expected that the research question as well as the need to conduct the specific thesis result smoothly from the present literature review.*  *Indicative length up to 1500 words.* |

# Main research question (s)

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| *The main research question which will be answered with the completion of the thesis. The question must not be vague or of rhetorical form, must be consistent with the indicative/temporary title of the thesis and can be answered definitely. It is divided in individual research questions.*  *Indicative length up to 500 words.* |

# Main research approach/method

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| *A short or succinct summary of the methodological approach which is going to be used in order for the main research question or the individual questions to be answered. The aim is to justify the causality relationship, that is, the appropriateness of the selected methodological approach until the achievement of the expected scientific results and not to list all the potential methods that could be used. Obviously one or more research approaches could be combined as appropriate for the achievement of the study’s aims.*  *Indicative length up to 800 words.* |

# Expected scientific contribution/ expected results

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| *A clear, short/succinct description of the expected scientific contribution which the research will make if it is completed successfully. The scientific contribution can be further divided or specialized so that any possible causality relationships are stressed. The reference to vague or general aims must be avoided (e.g. improvement of knowledge and society etc).*  *Indicative length up to 500 words* |

# Indicative timetable

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| *With a structure of semesters over a period of three years. It will be used as a reference point for the first annual review of progress if the candidacy is approved.*  *Indicative length up to 500 words.* |

# Bibliography

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| --- |
| *Written as bibliographical references according to the APA system. All the sources used must be cited at least once in the text above. All the sources cited in the text must have a bibliographical reference in the bibliography.* |

# Appendix

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| *Any additional or secondary information that you consider relevant to the research design but is not relevant to the above sections. E. g. Tables of statistical data, sample questionnaire, preliminary cooperation agreement, etc.* |