**Doctorate of Business Administration (DBA) Research Proposal Form**

Please complete this form and email it to the Director of the DBA (see DBA website for details).

Please complete all sections using Arial point 12 and remain within the suggested word counts.

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| **First name(s):** |  |
| **Family name (Surname):** |  |

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| **Provisional title:**  Please provide a short, working title which captures the main focus of your proposed research.  (maximum of **15 words**) |
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| **Overview of the research:**  Please provide a brief introduction to your proposed research: thinking about its rationale, its main objectives (how and why it is important), which discipline it is linked to, a summary of the main debates and developments in the research area and describe the research problem that you have identified. You will need to show that your research is **original** (meaning that the issue has not been investigated before, or it is being studied in a novel or innovative way).  (maximum of **250 words**) |
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| **Literature review:**  Please provide a **brief** critical literature review of the main literature contributions, themes and/or debates linked to your research area. For example, drawing on academic journal articles, books and chapters, consultancy and industry documentation, policy reports (such as Government White Papers), and identify key authors who have helped to shape your understanding of the topic. You will also need to provide a list of references (using Harvard referencing style) citing all the sources you mention.  (Please note that you are not expected to provide a comprehensive review of literature here).  (maximum of **500 words**) |
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| **Research Question(s):**  Having already identified your research problem, you will need to state what research question(s) your research will answer, and/or what hypotheses that you plan to test.  (maximum of **150 words**) |
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| **Methodology:**  Please provide an overview of how you intend to carry out your research. For example, quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods or multi-methods? How will you obtain your data? For example, using survey questionnaires, simulations, interviewing, secondary (existing) data? What sampling approach will you use? How will you analyse your data? For example, statistical analysis, econometric or financial modelling (quantitative), or grounded theory, or thematic, content or discourse analysis (qualitative), or use a combination of approaches? You should also justify the reasoning for your approach.  (Please note that in-depth research methods training will be provided during the DBA programme).  (maximum of **500 words**) |
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| **Ethical considerations:**  Please provide an outline of the main ethical issues arising from your proposed research, for example, how do you plan to address confidentiality and anonymity, minimise physical or mental distress, obtain informed consent from participants (if relevant).  (maximum of **200 words**) |
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| **Contribution to knowledge:**  Please provide an outline of how you consider your research will make an impact on your chosen area (for example, develop further understanding of a phenomenon, find a new solution to an existing problem, change practice). In addition, where possible, please explain how your research could benefit the organisation you work for.  (maximum of **200 words**) |
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| **Planning your research:**  Please present an overview of timescale of the research, taking into account the different stages of the research and to factor in time to write up your thesis. For example, you can use a table, a Gantt Chart or bullet points to highlight month by month progress (or in blocks of months). |
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| **Any other information (optional):**  Please include any other information that you would like us to consider in support of your application (for example, outlining how you think that your expertise or professional practice could add value to your research).  (maximum of **150 words**) |
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