

## PhD Application – Guidance on writing the Outline Research Proposal

This document is part of the PhD selection procedure: once you have an offer of a place, you can choose a different research topic if you wish after discussion with your Director of Studies.

***If you have a problem coming up with a relevant research topic and/or want further clarification regarding the research proposal, feel free to contact the Head of the Programme or one of our academic staff: <http://www.buid.ac.ae/buid/page.php?id=105&pageId=105>***

### Structure of the Outline Research Proposal

Total length suggested: approximately 2 – 5 pages

#### Cover page

*Title* – give your proposal a draft research project title

*Details* –include your name and PhD application number (if allocated)

#### Content list

*Introduction* – write something about the context which your research idea relates to, why you have an interest in it and what need, problem or opportunity it will address (about 0.5 to 1 page).

*Research question* – Try to come up with a research question that expresses the need, problem or opportunity you have identified above.

*Research objectives* – try to come up with 3 to 5 draft research objectives to support the research question above.

*Short literature review* – write something based on an initial search of the literature using whatever means you can find, e.g. Google and Google Scholar, University library, other. This can include books, articles, reports, white papers, and academic journals. (about 1 to 3 pages)

*Research approach* – write something about what kind of data might be necessary to collect and how you might go about collecting it. Use whatever knowledge you already have about doing research to help, for example, from your work experience or from an undergraduate or Masters dissertation.

Reference list – list all the sources you have used and include citations in the text whenever you are referring to or quoting from an information source.

#### Submission

Please submit your draft proposal to the Admissions at BUiD ([admissions@buid.ac.ae](mailto:admissions@buid.ac.ae)).