



ASIA INSTITUTE PHD RESEARCH PROPOSAL – REQUIREMENTS AND STRUCTURE

As a first step, prospective students should acquaint themselves with the expertise of the Asia Institute's academic staff, available at: <http://findanexpert.unimelb.edu.au/support/supervisor.html> and <http://arts.unimelb.edu.au/asiainstitute/research/interests>

This should give an indication of whether your proposed research and topic will fall within the range of academic capacities and expertise of the Institute. If the topic appears to be appropriate, prospective students should then produce a short thesis proposal document. This should follow the headings described below, and be around eight pages in length. If particular staff member/s can be identified as potential supervisors, please also list these in the proposal.

Once a thesis proposal is prepared, please submit it via email it to: Robyn Borg, borgr@unimelb.edu.au. A short CV, and electronic copies of academic transcripts (if available), should also be included with your proposal. Please contact Robyn Borg if any further information on the application process is required.

THESIS PROPOSAL DOCUMENT STRUCTURE (APPROXIMATELY 8 PAGES):

Research Question: Provide a concise statement of the central question or hypothesis that your thesis is intended to test or analyse. What is it that you expect to answer or reveal at the end of your thesis?

Significance: What is the significance of your research question or hypothesis for your area of research? What makes this question or problem important, and what is original about the proposed work?

Relevant Literature: What is the current state of research in relation to your research problem and/or hypothesis? In what ways are you building on, advancing or applying existing knowledge? This section should make clear how the literature relates to your research objectives.

Approach and Method: How do you propose to approach the testing of your hypothesis or the investigation of your research problem?